THE SCOTS MAGAZINE,

For OCTOBER 1800.

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EDINBURGH:

Sold by JAMES WATSON, No 40. South Bridge.
And by the Principal Bookſellers in Town and Country.
And by T. KAY, Strand; and R. B. SCOTT, Brydges Street, Covent-Garden, London.

NEW PATENTS.

For a method of making Pattens.

A Patent has been granted to Mr Jethro Hornb'ower, of the parish of Kenwyne, in Cornwall, for a method of making pattens, by altering the composition and clumsiness of their make, and preventing their frequent breaking and uneasiness to the feet.

In this contrivance, instead of the common wooden patten to which the rings are rivetted, iron or any other metallic substance is substituted. This is made of thin iron-plates, and to prevent them bending, a piece of iron is applied under the bend of the patten, riveted at each end. The ties are likewise fixed to the iron by rivetting. To prevent the foot from slipping out of the patten, an elastic string made of brass-wire, and covered with cloth, comes round the heel, and makes the whole fit tighter to the wearer.

For large Account Books.

A patent has been granted to Mr Ebenezer Palmer, stationer, Cheapside, London, for making the largest merchant's account books, to open so wide as to admit of being written in close to the back, upon a principle entirely new, and which instead of weakening, gives it additional strength. The principle of this invention is the following. In addition to the common bands to which the paper is sewed, hinges are adapted, made of brass or copper, which consist of as many pieces as there are quires in the book. These pieces are small bars of about an inch and a half in length, and the tenth of an inch wide, more or less according to the size of the book. They are joined together by a kind of chain at both ends, composed of a number of small flat pieces, very much like the chain round the barrel of a watch, each of which is perforated through by two holes, which the pivots at the ends of the bars pass, by which means the whole is linked together, and forms one hinge, which has as many joints as their bars. Every bar has two holes, one near each end, through which the needle is passed, whereby every separate quire of the book is sewed to the hinges, so that in whatever part of the book there is occasion to write, it opens with as much freedom as a single quire of paper.

For a writing and drawing machine.

A Patent has been granted to Mr Marc Isambard Brunel, of Canterbury-place, in St Mary's parish, Lambeth, for an invention of a writing and drawing machine, by which two or more writings, resembling each other, may be made by the same person at the same time.

For making pins.

A Patent has been granted to Mr Timothy Harris, of Waltham Abbey, Essex, pin-maker, for a method of manufacturing pins with iron and other materials, and making them white.

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE LATE EARL HOWE.

THE late right hon. RICHARD HOWE, earl and viſcount Howe, of Langar in Nottinghamſhire, viſcount Howe and baron Clenawley, in Ireland, and a baronet, was the ſecond ſon of ſir Emanuel Scrope, the ſecond lord viſcount Howe, baron of Clenawley, who was appointed governor of Barbadoes, in May 1732, and Maria-Sophia Charlotte, eldeſt daughter of the baron Kilmanſeck, maſter of the horſe to George II, as elector of Hanover; and was born in 1725.

He ſucceeded his brother, George Auguſtus viſcount Howe, July 5, 1758, and married the ſame year, Mary, daughter of Chiverton Hartopp, eſq. of Welby in Leiceſterſhire, by whom he had three daughters, lady Sophia-Charlotte, lady Mary-Indiana, and lady Louiſa-Catherine. Dying without iſſue-male, his Iriſh honours, which are lord Howe, baron of Clenawley, deſcend to his brother general ſir William Howe, and alſo the Engliſh baronetcy. The Engliſh earldom and viſcounty are extinct: and the Engliſh barony deſcends to his daughters and their heirs male. More particulars of his lordſhip's family and deſcent may be ſeen in any book of peerage. We ſhall now proceed to detail that career of glory which has ranked him ſo high among Engliſh heroes.

His lordſhip was only two years of age, when he loſt his father. He was, during ſome time, at Eton College, which he left at fourteen, to enter on board the Severn, of fifty guns, commanded by the hon. captain Legge; and which formed part of the ſquadron deſtined for the South Seas, under the command of commodore Anſon. On its arrival off Terra del Fuego, it ſuffered the greateſt diſtreſs from a very long and violent tempeſt; in which the Severn, after being reduced to the utmoſt diſtreſs, was finally ſeparated from it, and having refitted at Rio Janeiro, returned to Europe. Mr Howe next ſerved on board the Burford, which was one of the ſquadron detached, in 1743, from admiral ſir Chaloner Ogle's fleet, under the command of commodore Knowles, to attempt the town of La Guira, on the coaſt of Caraccas. The Burford ſuffered very much in this enterprize; and captain Luſhington, who commanded her, having loſt his thigh by a chain ſhot, died ſoon after. Mr Howe was now appointed acting lieutenant by the commodore, and in a ſhort time returned to England with his ſhip; but, his commiſſion not being confirmed by the admiralty, he returned to his patron in the Weſt Indies, where he was made lieutenant of a ſloop of war; and being employed to cut an Engliſh merchant-man, which had been taken by a French privateer under the guns of the Dutch ſettlement of St Euſtatia, and, with the connivance of the governor, out of that harbour, he executed the difficult and dangerous enterprize in ſuch a manner as to produce the moſt ſan-

guine expectations of his future ſervices.

In 1745, lieutenant Howe was with admiral Vernon, in the Downs, but was in a ſhort time raiſed to the rank of commander, in the Baltimore ſloop of war, which joined the ſquadron then cruizing on the coaſt of Scotland, under the command of admiral Smith. During this cruize an action took place, in which captain Howe gave a fine example of perſevering intrepidity. The Baltimore, in company with another armed veſſel, fell-in with two French frigates of thirty guns, with troops and ammunition for the ſervice of the Pretender, which ſhe inſtantly attacked by running between them. In the action which followed, captain Howe received a wound in his head, which at firſt appeared to be fatal. He, however, ſoon diſcovered ſigns of life, and, when the neceſſary operation was performed, reſumed all his former activity, continued the action, if poſſible, with redoubled ſpirit, and obliged the French ſhips, with their prodigious ſuperiority in men and metal, to ſheer off, leaving the Baltimore, at the ſame time, in ſuch a ſhattered condition, as to be wholly diſqualified to purſue them. He was, in conſequence of this gallant ſervice, immediately made poſt-captain, and, on the 10th of April 1746, was appointed to the Triton frigate, and ordered to Liſbon, where, in conſequence of captain Holbourne's bad ſtate of health, he was transferred to the Rippon, deſtined for the coaſt of Guinea. But he ſoon quitted that ſtation to join his early patron, admiral Knowles, in Jamaica, who appointed him firſt captain of his ſhip of eighty guns; and at the concluſion of the war in 1748, he returned in her to England. In March 1750-51, captain Howe was appointed to the command of the Guinea ſtation, in the Glorie, of forty-four guns, when, with his uſual ſpirit and activity, he checked the injurious proceedings of the Dutch governor-general on the coaſt, and adjuſted the difference between the Engliſh and Dutch ſettlements.

At the cloſe of the year 1751, he was appointed to the Mary yacht, which was ſoon exchanged for the Dolphin frigate, in which he ſailed to the Streights, where he executed many difficult and important ſervices. Here he remained about three years; and ſoon after, on his return to England, he obtained the command of the Dunkirk, of ſixty guns, which was among the ſhips that were commiſſioned, from an apprehenſion of a rupture with France. This ſhip was one of the fleet, with which admiral Boſcawen ſailed to obſtruct the paſſage of the French fleet into the gulf of St Lawrence, when Captain Howe took the Alcide, a French ſhip of ſixty-four guns, off the coaſt of Newfoundland. A powerful fleet being prepared in 1757, under the command of ſir Edward Hawke, to make an attack upon the French coaſt, captain Howe was appointed to the Magnanime, in which ſhip he battered the fort on the iſland of Aix till it ſurrendered. In 1758, he was appointed commodore of a ſmall ſquadron, which ſailed to annoy the enemy on their coaſts. This he effected with his uſual ſucceſs at St Malo, where a hundred ſail of ſhips and ſeveral magazines were deſtroyed; and the heavy gale blowing into ſhore, which rendered it impracticable for the troops to land, alone prevented the executing a ſimilar miſchief in the town and harbour of Cherbourg. On the 1ſt of July, he returned to St Helens.

This expedition was ſoon followed by another, when prince Edward, afterward Duke of York, was entruſted to the care of commodore Howe, on board his ſhip the Eſſex. The fleet ſailed on the 1ſt of Auguſt 1758, and on the 6th, came to an anchor in the bay of Cherbourg; the town was taken, and the baſin deſtroyed. The commodore,

modore, with his royal midſhipman on board, next ſailed to St Malo, and, as his inſtructions were to keep the coaſt of France in continual alarm, he very effectually obeyed them. The unſucceſsful affair of St Cas followed: but never was courage, ſkill, or humanity, more powerfully or ſucceſsfully diſplayed than on this occaſion. He went in perſon in his barge, which was rowed through the thickeſt fire, to ſave the retreating ſoldiers; the reſt of the fleet, inſpired by his conduct, followed his example, and at leaſt 700 men were preſerved, by his exertions, from the fire of the enemy or the fury of the waves. In July of the ſame year, his elder brother, who was ſerving his country with equal ardour and heroiſm in America, found an early grave. That brave and admirable officer was killed in a ſkirmiſh between the advanced guard of the French and the troops commanded by general Abercrombie, in the expedition againſt Ticonderago. Commodore Howe now ſucceeded to the titles and property of his family.

In the following year, 1759, lord Howe was employed in the channel, on board his old ſhip the Magnanime; but no opportunity offered to diſtinguiſh himſelf till the month of November, when the French fleet, under Conflans, was defeated. When he was preſented to the king, by ſir Edward Hawke, on this occaſion, his majeſty ſaid, 'Your life, my lord, has been one continued ſcene of ſervices to your country.' In March 1760, he was appointed colonel of the Chatham diviſion of marines; and in September following, he was ordered, by ſir Edward Hawke, to reduce the French fort on the Iſle of Dumel, in order to ſave the expence of the tranſports employed to carry water for the uſe of the fleet. Lord Howe continued to ſerve as occaſion required, in the channel; and in the ſummer of 1762, he removed to the Princeſs Amelia, of eighty guns, having accepted the command as captain to his royal highneſs the Duke of York, then rear-admiral of the blue, ſerving as ſecond in command under ſir Edward Hawke, in the channel.

On the 23d of Auguſt 1763, his lordſhip was appointed to the board of admiralty, where he remained till Auguſt 1765. He was then made treaſurer of the navy; and, in October 1770, was promoted to be rear-admiral of the blue, and commander in chief in the Mediterranean. In March 1775, he was appointed rear-admiral of the white, and was ſoon after choſen to repreſent the borough of Dartmouth in parliament. In the month of December in the ſame year, he was made vice-admiral of the blue. It was on one of theſe promotions that lord Hawke, then firſt lord of the admiralty, roſe in the houſe of Peers, and ſaid, 'I adviſed his majeſty to make the promotion. I have tried my lord Howe on important occaſions; he never aſked me how he was to execute any ſervice, but always went and performed it.'

We are now to conſider lord Howe as commander in chief on the American ſtation, a very critical part of his life, and which, at the time, was ſubject to the cenſure and praiſe of contending parties; but, having ſuch diſcuſſions to hiſtorical examination, we ſhall proceed briefly to obſerve, as it appears to us, that every enterprize in which his ſquadron was concerned was uniformly ſucceſsful; and he never failed in obtaining thoſe objects, that were within the reach of the naval force which he commanded. In 1778, France having become a party in the war, the French admiral D'Eſtaing, appeared on the 11th of July, in ſight of the Britiſh fleet, at Sandy Hook, with a conſiderable force of line of battle ſhips, in complete equipment and condition. Moſt of the ſhips under lord Howe had been long in ſervice, were not well manned, and were not line of battle ſhips of

the preſent day. The French admiral, however, remained ſeven days without making an attack, and by that time lord Howe had diſpoſed his inferior force in ſuch a manner as to bid him defiance. On D'Eſtaing's leaving the Hook, lord Howe heard of the critical ſituation of Rhode Iſland, and made every poſſible exertion to preſerve it. He afterward acted chiefly on the defenſive. Such a conduct appears to have been required from the ſtate of his fleet, and the particular ſituation of the Britiſh cauſe in America. He, however, contrived to baffle all the deſigns of the French admiral; and may be ſaid, conſidering the diſadvantages with which he was ſurrounded, to have conducted and cloſed the campaign with honour. Lord Howe now reſigned the command to admiral Byron; and on his return to England in October, immediately ſtruck his flag. In the courſe of this year he had been advanced to be vice-admiral of the white, and, ſhortly after, to the ſame rank in the red ſquadron.

On the change of adminiſtration in 1782, lord Howe was raiſed to the dignity of a viſcount of Great Britain, having been previouſly advanced to the rank of admiral of the blue. He was then appointed to command the fleet fitted out for the relief of Gibraltar, and he fulfilled the important object of the expedition. That fortreſs was effectually relieved, the hoſtile fleet baffled, and dared in vain to battle; and different ſquadrons detached to their important deſtinations, while the ardent hopes of his country's foes were diſappointed. Peace was concluded ſhortly after lord Howe's return from performing this important ſervice, and in January 1783, he was nominated firſt lord of the admiralty. That office, in the ſucceeding April, he reſigned to lord Keppel: but was re-appointed on the 38th of December in the ſame year, when the preſent adminiſtration came into place. On the 24th of September 1787, he was advanced to the rank of admiral of the white; and in July 1788, he finally quitted his ſtation at the admiralty. On the 19th of Auguſt following, he was created an earl of Great Britain.

On the commencement of the preſent war, in 1793, Earl Howe accepted the command of the weſtern ſquadron, at the particular and perſonal requeſt of his Majeſty, and juſtified the choice which his ſovereign had made at ſuch a perilous and important moment. The glorious victory of the 1ſt of June (1794) ſoon followed: the enemy's fleet, which was one of the moſt powerful that the French had ever equipped for ſea, was totally vanquiſhed, and ſeven ſhips of the line were in poſſeſſion of the conqueror. He now returned to receive all the honours which a grateful country could beſtow. On the 26th of the ſame month, their majeſties, with three of the princeſſes, arrived at Portſmouth, and proceeded the next morning in barges to viſit lord Howe's ſhip, the queen Charlotte, at Spithead. His majeſty held a naval levee on board, and preſented the victorious admiral with a ſword, enriched with diamonds, and a gold chain, with the naval medal ſuſpended from it. The thanks of both houſes of parliament, the freedom of the city of London, and the univerſal acclamations of the nation, followed the acknowledgement of the ſovereign. In the courſe of the following year, he was appointed general of marines, on the death of admiral Forbes, and finally reſigned the command of the weſtern ſquadron in April 1797. On the 22d of June in the ſame year, he was inveſted with the inſignia of the garter.

The laſt public act of a life employed againſt the foreign enemies of his country, was exerted to compoſe its internal diſturbances. It was the lot of earl Howe to contribute to the reſtoration

toration of the fleet, which he had conducted to glory on the ſea, to loyalty in the harbour. His experience ſuggeſted the meaſures to be purſued by government on the alarming mutinies, which in 1797, diſtreſſed and terrified the nation; while his perſonal exertions powerfully promoted the diſperſion of that ſpirit, which had, for a time, changed the very nature of Britiſh ſeamen, and greatly helped to recall them to their former career of duty and obedience.

This venerable character departed this life, full of years and of honours, on the 5th day of Auguſt 1799, at his houſe in Grafton-ſtreet, Piccadilly, and was interred on the 16th, in the family vault at Langar, in Nottinghamſhire. Parliament has ordered a monument to be erected to his memory in St Paul's cathedral.

ANECDOTES AND GLEANINGS.

Miſcellaneous Remarks,

By Burns, the celebrated Scotch Poet.

ON rummaging over, ſays Burns to his correſpondent, ſome old papers, I lighted on a MS. of my early years, in which I had determined to write myſelf out; as I was placed by fortune, among a claſs of men to whom my ideas would have been nonſenſe, I had meant that the book ſhould have lain by me, in the fond hope, that ſome time or other, even after I was no more, my thoughts would fall into the hands of ſomebody capable of appreciating their value. It ſets off thus:

THERE is certainly ſome connexion between love, and muſic, and poetry; and, therefore, I have always thought a fine touch of nature, that paſſage in a modern love compoſition:

'As toward her cot he jogg'd alone,
Her name was frequent in his ſong.'

For my own part, I never had the leaſt thought, or inclination of turning poet 'till I got once heartily in love; and then rhyme and ſong were, in a manner, the ſpontaneous language of my heart.

I HAVE often obſerved in the courſe of my experience of human life, that every man, even the worſt, has ſomething good about him; though very often nothing elſe than a happy temperament of conſtitution inclining him to this or that virtue. For this reaſon no man can ſay in what degree any other perſon, beſide himſelf, can be, with ſtrict juſtice, called *wicked*. Let any of the ſtricteſt character for regularity of conduct among us, examine impartially how many vices he has never been guilty of, not from any care or vigilance, but for want of opportunity or ſome accidental circumſtance intervening; how many of the weakneſſes of mankind he has eſcaped, becauſe he was out of the line of ſuch temptation: and what often, if not always, weighs more than all the reſt; how much he is indebted to the world's good opinion, becauſe the world does not know all; I ſay any man who can thus think, will ſcan the failings, nay, the faults and crimes, of mankind around him, with a brother's eye.

I have often courted the acquaintance of that part of mankind, commonly known by the ordinary phraſe of *blackguards*; ſometimes further than was conſiſtent with the ſafety of my character: thoſe who by thoughtleſs prodigality, or headſtrong paſſions, have been driven to ruin. Though diſgraced by follies, nay, ſometimes 'ſtained with guilt' * * * * *, I have yet found among them, in not a few inſtances, ſome of the nobleſt virtues, magnanimity, generoſity, diſintereſted friendſhip, and even modeſty.

I THINK the whole ſpecies of young men, may be naturally enough divided into two grand claſſes, which I ſhall call the *grave*, and the *merry*; though

by the bye, theſe terms do not with propriety enough expreſs my ideas. The grave I ſhall call into the uſual diviſion of thoſe who are goaded on by the love of money, and thoſe whoſe darling wish is to make a figure in the world. The merry, are the men of pleaſure of all denominations; the jovial lads who have too much fire and ſpirit, to have any ſettled rule of action, but without much deliberation, follow the ſtrong impulſes of nature: the thoughtleſs, the careleſs, the indolent, in particular *he*, who with a happy ſweetneſs of natural temper, and a cheerful vacancy of thought, ſteals through life, generally indeed in poverty and obſcurity; but poverty and obſcurity are only evils to him who can ſit gravely down, and make a repining compariſon between his own ſituation and that of others; and laſtly, to grace the *quorum*, ſuch are, generally, thoſe whoſe heads are capable of all the towerings of genius, and whoſe hearts are warmed with all the delicacy of feeling.

As the grand end of human life, is to cultivate an intercourſe with that *Being* to whom we owe life, with every enjoyment that can render life delightful: and to maintain an integritive conduct toward our fellow-creatures; that ſo by forming piety and virtue into habit, we may be fit members for that ſociety of the pious and good, which reaſon and revelation teach us to expect beyond the grave: I do not ſee that the turn of mind, and purſuits of any ſon of poverty and obſcurity, are in the leaſt more inimical to the ſacred intereſts of piety and virtue, than the, even lawful, buſtling and ſtraining after the world's riches and honours: and I do not ſee but that he may gain heaven as well (which by the bye is no mean conſideration) who ſteals through the vale of life, amuſing himſelf with every little flower that fortune throws in his way; as he who ſtraining ſtraight forward, and perhaps beſpattering all about him, gains ſome of life's little eminences, where, after all, he can only ſee, and be ſeen a little more conſpicuouſly, than what, in the pride of his heart, he is apt to term, the poor, indolent devil he has left behind him.

Middle Temple—Regulations in Dreſs, &c.

In the fourth year of the reign of William and Mary, it was ordered, that none of this ſociety ſhould thenceforth wear any great breeches in their boſes, made after the Dutch, Spaniſh, or Almon faſhion; and lawnde upon their capps, or cut doublets, upon pain of three ſhillings and fourpence forfeiture for the firſt default, and the ſecond time to be expelled the houſe: and in the 26th Elſabeth the following orders for apparel were made.

1. That no great ruff ſhould be worn.

2. Nor any white colour in doubles or hoſen.

3. Nor any facing of velvet in gownes, but by ſuch as were of the bench.

4. That no gentleman ſhould walk in the ſtreets in their cloaks but in gownes.

5. That no hat, or long, or curled hayr be worn.

6. Nor any gownes but ſuch as were of a ſad colour.

'In Charles the Firſt's reign many regulations were made for the good government of the ſociety of the Middle Temple, viz. that no foreigner or other, not of the ſocieties, ſhall be permitted to lodge there, that no common attorney or ſolicitor be admitted, no utter barriſter publicly to practiſe at any bar at Weſtminſter, till he have been three years at the bar; and that none be admitted to the bar under eight years continuance, and who have kept exerciſes in the houſe, and at the inns of chancery, according to the orders of the houſe.'

There are no lands nor revenues belonging to this houſe, to induce or encourage

encourage the ſtudent to ſtudy, by means of a ſtipend or ſalary; which, ſays an old writer quaintly on the ſubject, 'is the occaſion that many a good wit, for lack of exhibition, is compelled to give over and forſake ſtudy, before he have any perfyte knowledge in the law, and to fall to practiſing, and become a tipler in the law.' From the following remark of the ſame authors, we may fairly preſume, that at the time of which he ſpeaks, the inns of court were by no means calculated for the ſtudy of the law. The ſtudents, he obſerves, have for the moſt part their ſtudies and places of learning ſo ſet that they are much troubled with the noiſe of walking and communication of them that be no learners; and in term time they are ſo unquieted by clyents, and ſervants of clyents that reſort to ſuch as are attorneys and practiſing, that the ſtudents may as quietly ſtudy in the open ſtreets as in their ſtudies. They likewiſe complain that they have no place to walk in, and talk and confer on their learnings, but in the church, which all the term times hath in it no more quietneſs than the pervyſe (puriieus) of Pawles, by occaſion of the confluence of ſuch as are ſuiters in the law.'

The Battle of Falkirk.

THE Reverend Mr Bennet, Miniſter of Polmont, near Falkirk, diſtinguiſhed himſelf by his activity in the cauſe of the reigning prince, in 1745. His knowledge of the country, and the influence which he deſervedly poſſeſſed among all ranks of people, were found extremely uſeful in procuring forage and other accomodations to the troops, and even intelligence to their leaders, when they lay at Falkirk. The rebels were collected in force at the Tor-wood, in the immediate neighbourhood, and were known to be preparing for battle. Mr B. having obſerved, that general Hawley was but too little ſenſible of the impending danger, reminded him, by quoting paſſages from the claſſics, of the imprudence of too much deſpiſing an enemy. H. replied, that certainly ſuch a naked rabble would never dare to attack his veterans, who had ſtood the brunt of Fontenoy. "You are quite miſtaken," ſaid Mr B. "that rabble, as you call them, will dare to attack your veterans, or any veterans in Europe. They are brave even to raſhneſs, and are engaged in a cauſe in which they have no alternative but to conquer or die; and no precaution againſt them ought to be neglected.' But the general could only be convinced by the gleaming broad ſwords of the Highlanders, who, in a day or two not only attacked but utterly routed his veterans. Their behaviour, it was obſerved, was inferior to that of the Glaſgow militia, a body of men ſo haſtily collected, and ſo ill diſciplined, that it was jocularly ſaid, that their officers were obliged to tie a ſtraw wiſp round their right arms, and to give the word "Wheel to (or from) the wiſp." Thoſe men not only fired ſome ſucceſsful, well-timed vollies, but ſtood their ground till ordered to retreat, while the regulars made haſte to retreat, without any orders at all.

THE SAVAGE OF AVEYRON.

A VERY extraordinary boy has been found in the woods of Aveyron. He arrived at Paris a ſhort time ago, and is entruſted to the care of the ingenious abbe Sicard, the maſter of the Deaf and Dumb School. The boy is ſaid never to have uttered yet an articulate ſound, nor even to expreſs his moſt urgent wants. He makes a noiſe like a ſcream, and has ſome manual and phyſiognomical geſtures; and what is aſtoniſhing is, that though he ſpent a month in the hoſpital of St Afrique, where he was treated as a beggar taken upon the highway, and no obſervations made upon ſo ſingular

a being, yet he has not made one ſtep toward civilization, and is juſt as far removed from the manners and habits of ſocial life as when he was firſt diſcovered in the woods. His form is good, his figure agreeable; he is above twelve years of age; he wears a large girdle, and is without ſhoes and ſtockings. He ſits uſually upon the ground, and ſleeps upon it, and it is only through affection for his keeper, whom he appears to love, that he will ſometimes ſit on a chair or ſleep in a bed. The food he prefers is raw potatoes, which he devours with greedineſs; he is alſo very fond of nuts; meat is diſagreeable to him, though he has been prevailed upon to take the wing of a fowl. White bread he will eat, but brown bread he deteſts. He appears to be ſometimes affected at the care taken of him, and puts out his hand to thoſe who careſs him; but nothing can conſole him for the loſs of his ancient freedom and his firſt mode of living. He is always anxious to run away. The greateſt noiſe is made in his ears, but he does not appear to hear it; yet the ſlighteſt noiſe made in opening a door ſeems to awake in him his habitual thoughts and his conſtant wiſhes, and he turns round, as if to get away.

ACCOUNT OF A CAVERN

Diſcovered on the northweſt ſide of the Mendip hills, in Somerſetſhire.

PERHAPS the following account of a cavern which I viſited ſome time ſince may be acceptable, as we there ſee the proceſs going on, which nature employs to incloſe foreign ſubſtances in the harder rocks.

At the bottom of a deep ravine on the north-weſt ſide of the Mendip hills, in Somerſetſhire, near the little village of Berrington, there has been diſcovered a cavern of conſiderable extent, in which was found a great collection of human bones.

As I have obſerved in this cavern many circumſtances which appear curious to me, I beg leave to mention them, as I do not believe there is another place in the kingdom where the different ſtages (if I may be allowed the expreſſion) of bones incorporating with limeſtone rocks can be ſo well ſeen. From the top and ſides there is a continual dripping of water, which being loaded with a large quantity of calcareous earth, depoſits a white kind of paſte on moſt parts of the cavern. Many of the bones are incruſted with this cement, and a large proportion of them are actually fixed in the ſolid rock. I ſuppoſe, therefore, that this ſubſtance, which at firſt is in a ſtate reſembling mortar, by loſing its water, hardens into a firm and ſolid ſtone. I had an opportunity of examining the proceſs in every part. Had the cavern not been diſcovered, and theſe depoſited ſubſtances not been removed, I do not doubt that the whole excavation would, in no great length of time, have been completely filled up. The water was ſtill bringing freſh quantities of calcareous earth, and the bones were in ſome places completely incorporated with the ſolid rock. Every degree of intermediate ſolidity was plainly diſcernible. There were ſeveral nodules of ſtone, each of which contained a perfect human ſkull. The ſubſtance which is depoſited from the water effervеſces with acids, and has, in ſhort, every character of limeſtone. At the further end of this very curious cavern, where the height is about fifteen feet, there depends a moſt beautiful ſtalactite, perfectly conical, which, when the cavern was firſt diſcovered, reached within an inch of a cone of the ſame kind which riſes from the floor. By ſome accident a ſmall part of the ſtalactite was broken off; but Nature is now buſy in repairing an injury which had

had been done to one of the prettieſt productions of her mineral kingdom. Had theſe two cones met, a beautiful column would have been formed of nearly fifteen feet in height. On ſtriking this ſtalactite, a ſound is produced ſimilar to that of a bell, which may be heard at a conſiderable diſtance beyond the mouth of the cavern.

I examined the bones with conſiderable attention, and I found that there was adhering to the ſurface of many of them, a ſubſtance which reſembled the ſpermaceti I have before deſcribed in the Philoſophical Tranſactions for the years 1794 and 1795.

I have to add, that this cavern was diſcovered about two years ago by accident, and that no ſatisfactory reaſon has been given for this ſingular accumulation of human bones.

By George Smith Gibbes.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SCOTS MAGAZINE.

SIR,

INSERTING the following * in due courſe, will much oblige,

yours, &c. A CITIZEN.

I NEED hardly tell you I do not pretend to be any great deacon * at authorſhip *. Indeed I would not have lifted the pen, had not ſuch inſinuations, againſt the rebuilding of Wright's Houſes †, amounting in my mind to worſe than *ſcandalum magnatum*, groundleſsly gone forth againſt the whole truſtees.

I do not well know how to argue with your correſpondent: for he ſtates the antiquity of Wrights-houſes as the chief reaſon why it ſhould not have been pulled down; whereas its antiquity was in reality the chief cauſe of its demolition. By the bye, your correſpondent, in the whole courſe of his profound archaiological * diſquiſition on this ſame Wright's-houſes, (as it is commonly named, or Wrytes-houſe, as Koinon will have it), has never once touched on the etymology of the name. Probably he does not know it. Any one who does, would do well to communicate it; for it would probably aſſiſt in aſcertaining the preciſe age of the building.

As to the ſon of an earl lately inhabiting the caſtle, what is that to the point? I make it an invariable rule to be tender in ſaying any thing to the diſparagement of my ſuperiors; but, for my part, I think very little of any nobleman's taſte who could prefer ſuch a whimſical turreted place to a good ſubſtantial city reſidence. For my own part, I would prefer a ſnug box * in ſome ſheltered place (near the Abbey, for inſtance) to the fineſt caſtle on ſo high and cold a ſituation, expoſed to Pentland hills on the one hand, and the ſea on the other.

But what ſhall we ſay! Another noble lord is ſtill more abſurd than the former, for he not only immures himſelf amidſt the ruins of a crazy abbey, but even in printed books takes a pride in calling himſelf its 'gardener.' As already hinted, I never chooſe to judge my ſuperiors; but, in my opinion, to call himſelf the 'gardener of Dryburgh Abbey,' was juſt what one might expect from the man who made ſuch a fuzz * about one Thomſon a poet, crowning a dumb book of his with wreaths of laurel: I ſay *one Thomſon*; for, on reading Pinkerton, (the moſt learned man of this or any other age, if one may credit himſelf, which I do, for I would have others believe me, and you know the golden rule), on reading this phœnix, I find that Scotland never produced any poet worth mentioning; 'no Milton, no Shakeſpeare,' and therefore *no Thomſon!*

I don't love your authors that depart from their ſubject, therefore I reſume.

Your correſpondent ſays, it is ſurpriſing that, in this enlightened age, ſo little regard ſhould be paid to monuments of antiquity. Now, have not

† See page 456.

I juſt as good a right to be ſurpriſed that ſo much regard ſhould be paid to them, nay that any regard ſhould be paid to them at all.

Your correſpondent details a roſary-ſtring of crazy walls, &c. that he 'has ſeen' demoliſhed, &c. Now, as this gentleman muſt be threeſcore years of age at leaſt, (for Arthur's oven was put to uſe in 1742), I ſhall treat him with all reverence, for I am a Lacedæmonian in my heart.

This Arthur's oven (Arcthuri hove of Fordun, for though I do not wiſh to appear bookiſh, I may mention that I have looked into Fordun) Koinon calls a 'rotund Roman temple;' and if it was ſo, it was a memento that we had been once expelled by them, and therefore ſhould have been ſooner eradicated. Now that we have no more ſacrifices, and no heathen worſhip, there was no more uſe for it; and every uſeleſs thing is a kind of nuiſance; but the ſtones were really needed, it is ſaid, for a mill-pond, (and how neceſſary a thing that is, the drought of laſt ſummer may remind us): ergo, it was right to pull down Arthur's oven. Beſides, may not your antiquarian * gentry yet ſee the ſtones in the damhead * if they chooſe?

Your correſpondent next declaims about the Abbey-church roof falling in. This great event happened ſo long ago as December 1768. The money, to be ſure, was thrown away; for what church is worth the repairing if it cannot bear its roof? Such a roof, ſay ſome, was not ſuited to the ſlender ſymmetry of gothic walls. If this of ſlenderneſs be a teſt of gothic architecture, many of the houſes of the New Town are gothic enough, as I know to my experience.

As to the nunnery at Siennes being converted into a *dog* kennel, if it were not for a certain reſpect and awe I feel for the ladies, I would ſay that the inhabitants have only changed their *ſex*; for monſtrous were the crimes concealed in nunneries: therefore I hope government will never give them any encouragement. As to the repairing of the ruinous nunneries, your correſpondent will, in this new-light period, have a better chance of ſucceeding, if he ſuggeſts that they might conveniently be converted into *Tabernacles*.

This piaculous demolition has really been atoned for by certain gentlemen, who have carried off carved ſtones with an enthuſiaſm, which, I muſt confeſs, almoſt keeps Koinon in countenance. Some of theſe gentlemen, indeed, lamented ſo keenly the havock made, by the riff-raff of viſitants, among Adam and his wife, and the virtues and the vices, and the unicorns, that they could hardly have ſaid more if they had got their pocket picked, or their wine cellar broke into.

Before I learned the Utopian value of old worn-out carved ſand ſtones, I one day amuſed myſelf with betting on the heads of two boys, which of them ſhould firſt ſham * old Adam. A grave looking fellow puffed out ſye, ſye: and when I vindicated the little heroes, he ſnickered and ſneered at me. But old Adam was ſhammed * much to my joy: for I hated theſe lines,

When Adam delved and Evah ſpan,
Quhair war a' the gentles then?

To be candid, I believe that the truſtees really intended that the old building ſhould remain, but they were ſwayed by the bonum publicum, becauſe the building did not exceed the repairing in more than 400l. or 500l.: and when the undertaker put the queſtion of rebuilding to the teſt, ſeverals * in their hearts voted antiquam volumus, while their lips ſaid uti rogas. No blame of any kind, therefore, can attach to the worthy truſtees.

P. S. I have made uſe of one or two *colloquialiſms* * and *Scotticiſms* *, all of which I have marked with aſteriſks, of mere choice: for if it did not look too like trumpeting my own fame, I would aſſert that I could write as good a ſtyle as your twattling-twangling correſpondent.

October 1800.

VOYAGE IN SEARCH OF LA PEROUSE.

Continued from p. 598.

CONTENTS.

Approach to the Admiralty Islands—Interview with the Natives of the Easternmost of them—Pass the Hermit Islands—The Exchequer Islands and New Guinea—Anchor at Amboyna—Arrival at the Bay of Rocks—Landing and Interview with the Savages.

OMITTING several nautical remarks, and transient notices of subjects of natural history, we now come to July 29, 1792, on which day the ships approached the easternmost of the Admiralty islands. On this occasion, 'Captain Huon waited on the general, early the next morning. He was of opinion, that we should visit the island ENE of that we had coasted. In fact, according to one of the depositions which had been sent to the commander of the expedition, it was on the most easterly island that the savages had been seen clothed in the uniform of the French marine. About the middle of the day we were within 2,500 toises of that island, and saw some of the natives coming toward the beach. Some huts were seen among the cocoa-nut trees. Other islanders soon appeared on the south-east-point; and their number increased as we approached them. Some canoes lay upon the sand, and we hoped to see the natives launch them, in order to meet us; but they made no dispositions for that purpose. As the general wished to have an interview with them, we went under the lee of the island, where we found but little shelter, it being of small extent. A crowd of natives now appeared. Some ran along the shore; others kept their eyes directed toward our ships; inviting us by signs to come on shore, and expressing their joy by shouting. Some of them launched a canoe, but hesitated for some time to come near our ship, and paddled toward the Esperance which was more to windward. This little canoe was furnished with an out-rigger, and had on board seven natives, who almost immediately returned on shore.

At half past one o'clock we brought to, and dispatched from each ship a boat, with different articles, to be distributed among the inhabitants of that little island. While the boats were approaching the land as near as they could, the frigates were in readiness to protect them, in case of an attack from the savages; for the perfidy, which the inhabitants of the most southerly of the Admiralty islands had practised on Carteret, gave us some apprehensions with regard to the intentions of those. That voyager tells us, that in September 1767, when he discovered the southern part of that archipelago, the savages attacked him with two volleys of arrows, notwithstanding the marks of friendship which he had lavished upon them.

'This island was cultivated to its very summit. Several pieces of land were fenced in, which made us believe that the inhabitants were acquainted with the right of property. The whole island presented the appearance of a little round mountain, the base of which was adorned with beautiful plantations of cocoa-nut trees, while its more elevated parts appeared to be allotted to the cultivation of different roots, which also furnish food to the inhabitants.

'When the boats came within about fifty toises of the shore, they found no bottom with thirty three fathoms of line; and the reefs, with which the island is bordered, prevented them from approaching nearer.

'A great number of natives advanced to the beach. We counted more than a hundred and fifty, who practised every mean in their power, to induce us to land on their island; but the reefs were an obstacle which

could not ſurmount. They threw our people ſome cocoa-nuts, and were pleaſed and aſtoniſhed to ſee with what facility they were opened with an axe.

'One of the natives, diſtinguiſhed from the reſt by a double row of little ſhells, which adorned his forehead, appeared to poſſeſs great authority. He ordered one of the natives to ſwim toward us with ſome cocoa-nuts. The fear of approaching perſons of whoſe intention he was ignorant, made the iſlander, ſwimming and defenceleſs, heſitate a moment. But the chief who, doubtleſs, was little accuſtomed to have his will diſobeyed, did not allow him to reflect. Blows from a cudgel, which he held in his hand, immediately ſucceeded his orders, and enforced inſtant obedience. We did not expect to ſee a man treated in this manner, in the midſt of a crowd of people, who appeared to be ſo little removed from a ſtate of nature. By way of comforting the poor fellow, our people gave him ſome bits of red ſtuff, a few nails, and a knife, with which he was greatly pleaſed. No ſooner had he returned to the iſland, than curioſity collected all the reſt around him, every one wiſhing to ſee our preſents. Canoes were immediately launched, many natives took to the water and ſwam, and in a ſhort time there was a great concourſe around our boats. We were ſurprized to ſee that neither the force of the ſurf, nor of the breakers, diſcouraged them from this attempt.

'There was another chief diſtinguiſhed by the ſame ornaments as he who has been already mentioned; and alſo by the blows, which he inflicted with his cudgel, on thoſe to whom he gave his orders.

'Thoſe iſlanders, who ſignified the greateſt ſatisfaction at the ſight of our nails, and ſtill more of our hatchets, had ſome difficulty in perceiving the value of our knives. At firſt they required them to be ſhut, before they would receive them; but their fears were very quickly baniſhed, and they received them open as well as ſhut. Thoſe people gave us ſome ſpears, armed with bits of vitreous, volcanic lava, terminating in a point, and very ſharp in the edges. They alſo preſented us with combs, having only three teeth, very diſtant from each other, very heavy bracelets, formed of large ſhells, and others conſiſting of ſmall *buccinæ*, ſtrung on a fibrous ſubſtance, as ſtrong as the beſt hemp.

'When aſking for our articles in exchange for theirs, thoſe ſavages often repeated the word *capelle*. It appeared to us that this was their name for iron, which they preferred to every thing we could offer them.

'Like the natives of Bonka, they repeated with much juſtneſs, the French words which they heard us pronounce.

'One of their canoes was driven by the ſwell againſt one of our boats, and received ſome damage. One of our rowers taking hold of it to prevent a ſecond ſhock, a chief, miſapprehending our intention, made the ſignal to the canoe-men, the greater part of whom precipitately jumped into the ſea, with a deſign to ſwim on ſhore; but they returned as ſoon as they perceived their error, and confidence was re-eſtabliſhed.

'The women kept at ſome diſtance under the cocoa-nut trees. Their whole clothing conſiſted of a piece of mat, round their middle.

'The men were very buſy about our boats. Some ſwam toward them, ſhowing their cocoa-nuts; and others ſeemed to be attracted by curioſity; but it was ſoon diſcovered that this was not their only paſſion; for they exerted all their addreſs to get poſſeſſion of our goods. Impunity increaſed their boldneſs; and, when they miſſed their aim, they were not diſcouraged; but preſently endeavoured to ſeize ſomething elſe.

'One of thoſe thieves ſeized upon

a

knife; but being caught in the fact, he was obliged to give it up. This did not make him abandon his enterprize, and he loſt nothing by his failure. A flag, in which red predominated, attracted his notice: he found means to get poſſeſſion of it, and the theft was not perceived till he had got a great way from the boat, and had almoſt reached the iſland.

'A looking-glaſs having been given to one of thoſe ſavages, he contemplated his image with ſurprize; but immediately broke the glaſs, hoping, no doubt, to find in it the objects which it reflected.

'The complexion of thoſe iſlanders is black, but not very deep. Their phyſiognomy is agreeable, and not very different from that of Europeans. Born in a fine climate and a fertile iſland, they ſeem to be happy, if one may judge from the air of ſatisfaction which is expreſſed in all their features. The hair of their heads is criſped, and they are in the practice of removing it from every other part of the body. It appeared that the volcanic glaſs, with which they pointed their ſpears, ſupplied them alſo with razors, for they made ſigns to one of our gunners, who wore whiſkers, to ſhave them with this ſort of glaſs.

'The boats had orders to return about four o'clock. Their departure ſeemed ſenſibly to affect the natives, who redoubled their importunity in ſoliciting us to land in their iſland. All the women came to the beach, and joined their invitations to thoſe of the men. They were, no doubt, much ſurprized that they had not more ſucceſs; but the order had been given, and our boats could not delay their departure.

'It was with regret that we left thoſe people, at the moment when they had launched ſeveral canoes, loaded with cocoa-nuts, and were bringing them to us. The delicious water of thoſe fruits, would have been of the greateſt utility in ſtopping the progreſs of the ſcurvy, which had already begun its ravages in both the ſhips. If our boats could have ſtopped ſome minutes, they would have procured a great number of them.

'The ſatisfaction with which thoſe iſlanders received nails, and other articles of iron, and the anxiety they ſhowed to obtain them, were proofs that they were acquainted with that metal.

'Thoſe people, at firſt, manifeſted every appearance of good faith; but they diſcovered their inclination to theft, as ſoon as they thought themſelves certain of impunity. We had occaſion to obſerve, that thoſe who were the moſt advanced in years were the boldeſt thieves.

'That little iſland which is nearly circular, is about 25,000 toiſes in diameter, and is ſituate in 2° 18s lat. and 145° 46 E lon. It is extremely populous; for we ſaw about three hundred of its inhabitants.'

Leaving this iſland they directed their courſe E ¼ NE, and paſſed ſeveral little iſlands, whoſe bearings are noted with a few incidental remarks. In the beginning of Auguſt they paſſed the Hermit Iſlands, the Exchequer Iſlands, and New Guinea. On the 23d, they ſteered cloſe to the ſhore of New Guinea, with an intention to enter among the Moluccas by Watſon's ſtrait, but were obliged to paſs through Pit's ſtraits, owing to the continuation of the ſouth winds. Sept. 6, they anchored at Amboyna, where their reception was rather more favourable than is uſual with the Dutch nation toward the ſhips of other nations. Several particulars are given of the ſtate and manners of this place, but none that are novel enough to require an extract. From Amboyna, till they arrive at the bay of Rocks, we find only a ſeries of obſervations on bearings and diſtances, with deſcriptions of plants, inſects, and objects of natural hiſtory. The firſt volume, indeed,

deed, cloſes without affording any information reſpecting the primary object of the voyage, the diſcovery of the fate of La Perouſe.

'On anchoring at this port of New Holland, January 24, 1793, the author of the narrative landed, with a few others in ſearch of natural objects, and accidentally fell in with the natives, of whom we have the following details.

'After walking at leaſt a couple of miles, we fancied we heard human voices before us. Redoubling our attention, we advanced a few ſteps, when a ſudden cry, ariſing from ſeveral voices united, iſſued from one ſpot, and we perceived through the trees a number of the natives, moſt of whom appeared to be fiſhing on the borders of the lake. As we were unarmed, and ignorant of their intentions, we did not heſitate to return to our companions, each of whom had a muſket; and immediately croſſed through the wood, that the ſavages might not ſee us, leſt they ſhould be tempted to purſue us, on perceiving our flight.

'When we had told our men the occaſion of our return, I expreſſed my ſtrong deſire to have an interview with theſe people. It was neceſſary firſt, however, to prepare our means of defence, ſo that we might be able to avail ourſelves of them in caſe of an aſſault. Accordingly we got ready a few cartridges, as faſt as we could, and ſet out toward the place, where we had ſeen the natives. It was now only nine o'clock. We had gone only a few ſteps before we met them. The men and youths were ranged in front, nearly in a ſemi-circle: the women, children, and girls, were a few paces diſtant behind. As their manner did not appear to indicate any hoſtile deſign, I heſitated not to go up to the oldeſt, who accepted, with a very good grace, a piece of biſcuit I offered him, of which he had ſeen me eat. I then held out my hand to him as a ſign of friendſhip, and had the pleaſure to perceive, that he comprehended my meaning very well: he gave me his, inclining himſelf a little, and raiſing at the ſame time the left foot, which he carried backwards in proportion as he bent his body forward. Theſe motions were accompanied by a pleaſing ſmile.

'My companions alſo advanced up, to the others, and immediately the beſt underſtanding prevailed among us. They received with great joy the neckcloths which we offered them: the young people approached nearer to us; and one of them had the generoſity to give me a few ſmall ſhells of the whelk kind, pierced near the middle, and ſtrung like a necklace. This ornament, which he called *canlaride*, was the only one he poſſeſſed, and he wore it round his head. A handkerchief ſupplied the place of this preſent, gratifying the utmoſt wiſhes of my ſavage, who advanced toward me, that I might tie it round his head for him, and who expreſſed the greateſt joy, as he lifted his hand up to feel it again and again. We wore abundance of clothes, as I have already obſerved, on account of the coldneſs of the nights; and we beſtowed the greater part on theſe iſlanders.

'The women were deſirous of coming nearer to us; and though the men made ſigns to them to keep at a diſtance, their curioſity was ready every moment to break through all other conſiderations. The gradual increaſe of confidence, however, that took place, obtained them permiſſion to approach. It appeared to us very aſtoniſhing, that in ſo high a latitude, where, at a period of the year ſo little advaced as the preſent, we already experienced the cold at night to be pretty ſevere, theſe people did not feel the neceſſity of clothes themſelves. Even the women were for the moſt part entirely naked, as well as the men. Some of them only had the ſhoulders and part of the back covered

vered with a kangarou's ſkin, worn with the hair next the body; and among theſe we obſerbed two, each of whom had an infant at the breaſt. The ſole garment of one was a ſlip of kangarou's ſkin, about two inches broad, which was wrapped ſix or ſeven times round the waiſt; another had a collar of ſkin round the neck; and ſome had a ſlender cord bound ſeveral times round the back. I afterward learned, that moſt of theſe cords were fabricated from the bark of a ſhrub of the ſponge family, very common in this country.

'A pole-ax which we uſed for cutting off ſome branches from the trees, excited the admiration of theſe people. As they perceived us willing to give them any thing in our poſſeſſion, they did not ſcruple to beg it; and when we granted their requeſt, they were overcome with joy. They were fully ſenſible of the value of our knives, likewiſe; and received a few tin veſſels with pleaſure. When I ſhewed them my watch, it attracted their deſire; and one of them, in particular, expreſſed his wiſh to poſſeſs it: but he quickly deſiſted from his requeſt, when he found, that I was not willing to part with it.

'The readineſs with which we gave them our things, no doubt led them to preſume, that they might take any thing belonging to us, without aſking for it: this obliged us to ſet bounds to their deſires; but we found, to our great ſatisfaction, that they returned to us, without the leaſt reſiſtance, ſuch things as we could not diſpenſe with for our own uſe.

'I had given them ſeveral articles, without requiring any thing in return: but I wiſhed to get a kangarou's ſkin, when, among the ſavages about us, there happened to be only a young girl, who had one. When I propoſed to her, to give it me in exchange for a pair of pantaloons, ſhe ran away, to hide herſelf in the woods. The other natives appeared truly hurt at her refuſal, and called to her ſeveral times. At length ſhe yielded to their intreaties, and came to bring me the ſkin. Perhaps it was from timidity only, that ſhe could not prevail on herſelf to part with this kind of garment: in return for which ſhe received a pair of pantaloons, leſs uſeful to her, according to the cuſtoms of the ladies in this country, than the ſkin, which ſerved to cover the ſhoulders. We ſhewed her the manner of wearing them; but, notwithſtanding, it was neceſſary for us to put them on for her ourſelves. To this ſhe yielded with the beſt grace in the world, reſting both her hands on our ſhoulders, to ſupport herſelf, while ſhe lifted up firſt one leg, then the other, to put them into this new garment. Deſirous of avoiding every cauſe of offence, we behaved with all the gravity we could on the occaſion.

'This party of ſavages conſiſted of two-and-forty, ſeven of whom were men, eight women: the reſt appeared to be their children; and among theſe we obſerved ſeveral marriageable girls, ſtill leſs clothed than moſt of the mothers. We invited them all to come and ſit near our fire; and when they arrived there, one of the ſavages informed us by unequivocal ſigns, that he had come to reconnoitre us during the night. That we might underſtand he had ſeen us aſleep, he inclined his head on one ſide, laying it on the palm of his right hand, and cloſing his eyes; and with the other he pointed out the ſpot, where we had paſſed the night. He then acquainted us, by ſigns equally expreſſive, that he was at the time on the other ſide of the brook, whence he obſerved us. In fact, one of us had been awakened about the middle of the night by a ruſtling among the branches, and had even fancied, that he heard ſome broken off: but, being greatly fatigued, he had ſoon fallen aſleep again, perſuaded it was a kangarou, that had come to viſit us. Our fire had been

been a guide to this native, whom the party had ſent to reconnoitre us: while we had ſlept with the utmoſt tranquillity, notwithſtanding we had been at the mercy of theſe ſavages the whole night. One of the men that accompanied us, then ſaid, that in the evening, at ſun-ſet, he perceived ſome ſmoke on the other ſide of the lake, whence he preſumed, that ſome of the natives were aſſembled there; but he forgot to mention it to us, when we joined them.

'We were deſirous of ſhewing theſe ſavages the effects of our fire-arms, after having given them to underſtand, that they had nothing to fear. They appeared, however, to be a little frightened at their report.

'Theſe people have woolly hair, and let their beards grow. In the children, the upper jaw advances conſiderably beyond the lower; but ſinking as they grow up, both jaws are nearly even in the adult. Their ſkin is not of a very deep black; but no doubt they conſider extreme blackneſs as a beauty, for, in order to heighten this colour beyond its natural ſtate, they rub themſelves over, particularly on the upper parts of the body, with powdered charcoal.

'On their ſkin, particularly on the breaſt and ſhoulders, may be obſerved tubercles ſymmetrically arranged, exhibiting ſometimes lines four inches in length, at other times points placed at different diſtances. The application by which theſe riſings were produced, had not deſtroyed the cellular membrane, however, for they were of the ſame colour as the reſt of the ſkin.

'The cuſtom of extracting two of the front teeth of the upper jaw, which, from the accounts of ſome voyagers, had been ſuppoſed general among the inhabitants of this country, certainly has not been introduced into this tribe; for we did not ſee one among them, in whom a ſingle tooth of the upper jaw was wanting; and indeed they had all very good teeth.

'One of the ſailors, that accompanied us, thought he could not regale them better than with a glaſs of brandy: but, accuſtomed to drink nothing but water, they quickly ſpit it out, and it ſeemed to have given them a very diſagreeable ſenſation.

'Theſe ſavages, going completely naked, are liable to wound themſelves, particularly in the lower extremities, when they paſs through the woods. We obſerved one who walked with difficulty, and one of them whoſe feet was wrapped up in a piece of ſkin.

'I had not perceived the young girls for ſome time, and imagined that they had all retired into the woods; but happening to look behind me, I ſaw, with ſurprize, ſeven who had perched themſelves on a ſtout limb of a tree, more than three yards from the ground, whence they attentively watched our ſlighteſt movements. As they all ſquatted on the bough, they formed a pleaſing group.

'We were at a conſiderable diſtance from the ſhore, where a boat was to wait for us, to take us on board. It was time for us to be on our way toward it. We were quitting this peaceable party with regret, when we ſaw the men and four of the youths ſeparating from the reſt, in order to accompany us. One of the moſt robuſt preſently went into the wood, whence he returned almoſt inſtantly, holding in his hand two long ſpears. As he came near, he made ſigns to us, that we need be under no apprehenſions: on the contrary, it appeared as if he were deſirous of protecting us with his arms. No doubt they had left their weapons in the wood, when they came to meet us in the morning, that they might give us no alarm.

'The other natives, whom we had juſt quitted, approached our party. Immediately on our requeſting him who carried the ſpears, to give us a ſpecimen of his dexterity, he graſped one of them with the right hand near the middle, then raiſing it as high as his head, and holding it horizontally, he

he drew it back toward himself three times following, with a jerk, which gave it a very perceptible tremulous movement at each extremity, when he darted it forward near a hundred paces. The weapon, supported throughout its whole length by the column of air beneath it, flew in a tolerably horizontal direction more than three fourths of the distance. The tremulous motion impressed on it contributed, unquestionably, to accelerate its progress, and to support it longer in the air.

'The savage was very ready to gratify our wishes, by launching his spear several times following. He then aimed at an object, which we pointed out to him, and every time was near enough to it, to give us a high idea of his skill. Presently after another shewed us two holes in a kangarou's skin, which had been made apparently with the point of a spear, giving us thus to understand, that they employed this weapon to kill these animals. In reality, they launched it with sufficient force to pierce the animal through and through.

'At length we parted with our new guides, whose pace was sufficiently slow for us to follow them with ease. It seemed as if they were not accustomed to take a long walk without interruption: for we had scarcely been half an hour on our way, before they invited us to sit down, saying *medi*; and we immediately stopped. This halt lasted but a few minutes, when they rose, saying to us *tangara*, which signifies "let us set off." On this we resumed our journey: and they made us halt again, in the same manner, four times, at nearly equal distances.

'The attentions lavished on us by these savages astonished us. If our path were interrupted by heaps of dry branches, some of them walked before, and removed them to either side: they even broke off such as stretched across our way from the trees that had fallen down.

'We could not walk on the dry grass without slipping every moment, particularly where the ground was sloping; but these good savages, to prevent our falling, took hold of us by the arm, and thus supported us. We found it difficult to persuade them that none of us would fall, even if unassisted; and they continued, nevertheless, to bestow on us these marks of affectionate kindness: nay, they frequently stationed themselves, one on each side, to support us the better. As they obstinately persisted in paying us this obliging attention, we no longer declined it.

'They no doubt conceived it to be our intention to return to Port Dentrecasteaux, for we were twice mistaken in the road, and they both times pointed out to us that which led directly to it.'

(*To be continued.*)

MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BIRMANS.

From Symes' Account of an Embassy to Ava.

THE government of Ava is extremly attentive to provide, in times of peace, for the contingencies of war; the royal magazines, I was told, could furnish 20,000 firelocks, which, if they resembled the specimens I saw, cannot be very formidable; these have been imported, at different periods, into the country by ships trading to Rangoon and other parts of the empire, and are either of French manufacture, or condemned muskets from the English arsenals in India. The Birmans are very fond of their arms, of which they take great care; their gunsmiths, who are all natives of Cassay, keep them in repair, but they are in general so bad as to be out of the power of art to render them serviceable. I saw a tolerably good fowling piece, which they said was entirely the work of a Cassay artificer; this, however, was allowed to be an extraordinary effort of genius; the person

perſon who ſhowed it to me, preſented me at the ſame time, with a bamboo, which threw out a ſhort ſpear of iron, by means of a ſpring; it was executed by the maker of the gun, and ſeemed to be formed after a model of an Engliſh walking-ſtick that contained a concealed ſpike; the imitation evinced much ingenuity, although the workmanſhip was coarſe, and the iron badly poliſhed.

By far the moſt reſpectable part of the Birman military force is their eſtabliſhment of war-boats. Every town of note, in the vicinity of the river, is obliged to furniſh a certain number of men, and one or more boats, in proportion to the magnitude of the place. I was informed that the king can command, at very ſhort notice, five hundred of theſe veſſels: they are conſtructed out of the ſolid trunk of the teak tree, which is excavated partly by fire, and partly by cutting: the largeſt are from eighty to one hundred feet long, but the breadth ſeldom exceeds eight feet, and even this ſpace is produced by artificially extending the ſides after the trunk has been hollowed. They carry from fifty to ſixty rowers, who uſe ſhort oars that work on a ſpindle; the prow is ſolid, and has a flat ſurface, on which when they go to war, a piece of ordnance is mounted, a ſix, a nine, or even a twelve pounder: the gun carriage is ſecured by laſhings to ſtrong bolts on each ſide, and ſwivels are frequently fixed on the curvature of the ſtem.

The rowers are ſeverally provided with a ſword and a lance, which are placed by his ſide while he plies the oars. Beſide the boatmen, there are uſually thirty ſoldiers on board, who are armed with muſkets: thus prepared, they go in fleets to meet the foe, and, when in ſight, draw up in a line, preſenting their prows to the enemy. Their attack is extremely impetuous; they advance with great rapidity, and ſing a war ſong, at once to encourage their people, daunt their adverſaries and regulate the ſtrokes of their oars; they generally endeavour to grapple, and when that is effected, the action becomes very ſevere, as theſe people are endued with great courage, ſtrength, and activity. In times of peace they are fond of exerciſing in their boats, and I have often been entertained with the dexterity they diſplay in the management of them. The veſſels being low in the water, their greateſt danger is that of being run down by a larger boat ſtriking on their broadſide, a misfortune which the ſteerſman is taught to dread, and to avoid, above all others. It is ſurpriſing to ſee the facility with which they ſteer, and elude each other in their mock combats. The rowers are alſo practiſed to row backward, and impel the veſſel with the ſtern foremoſt, this is the mode of retreat by means of which the artillery ſtill bears upon their opponent. The largeſt of the war-boats do not draw more than three feet water. When a perſon of rank is on board, there is a ſort of moving tilt or canopy, for his particular accommodation, placed ſometimes in the centre, and ſometimes on the prow. The ſides of the boat are either gilt as far as the water's edge, or plain, according to the rank of the perſon it carries. Gilded boats are only permitted to princes of the blood, or to perſons holding the higheſt ſtations, ſuch as a Maywoon of a province and a miniſter of ſtate.

It is by no means improbable that the uſe of gunpowder was well known in India before its effects were diſcovered in the weſt; yet there is not any reaſon to believe that the natives of Ava applied it to the purpoſe of muſketry, till Europeans inſtructed them in the art. According to Indian accounts, cannon were fabricated in the eaſt long before the era of European conqueſt; their artillery, however, was not capable of being tranſported with facility, or at all uſed in the

the field: they were made of iron bars beaten into a cylindrical form, rudely put together, but of great ſtrength and enormous weight, from which, when raiſed on a rampart or tower, they threw huge ſtones to annoy the enemy. The muſket was firſt introduced into the Pegue and Ava countries by the Portugueſe, and is an implement of war which the inhabitants unwiſely prefer to their own native weapons, the ſpear and ſabre; a partiality that is highly prejudicial to themſelves, for nothing can be leſs formidable than ſuch fire-arms as they poſſeſs, or have the means of procuring. The proper indigenous weapons of the country are the ſpear, the javelin, which is thrown from the hand, the croſs-bow, and the ſabre; the latter is uſed by the Birmans not only as an implement of war, but is likewiſe applied to various purpoſes as an inſtrument of manual labour; with this the peaſant fells trees, ſhapes timber, cuts bamboos, or defends himſelf againſt an enemy and wild beaſts; he never travels without it, and generally when on a journey, carries a ſhield on his left arm; they encumber themſelves with leſs baggage then perhaps any other people; and are ſatisfied with a ſcanty portion of the hardeſt fare.

In their food the Birmans, compared with the Indians, are groſs and uncleanly. Although their religion forbids the ſlaughter of animals in general, yet they apply the interdiction only to thoſe that are domeſticated; all game is eagerly ſought after, and in many places it is publicly ſold; reptiles alſo, ſuch as lizards, guanas, and ſnakes, conſtitute a part of the ſubſiſtence of the lower claſſes. During our voyage up the river, the boatmen, after we had brought to, uſed frequently to hunt for cameleons and lizards among the thickets. They are extremly fond of vegetables; at thoſe places where garden-greens were not to be procured, they gathered wild ſorrel, and ſometimes ſubſtituted the tender leaves of trees; theſe, boiled with rice, and moiſtened with a little oil, or ſeaſoned with gnapee, or pickled ſprat, compoſe a meal with which a Birman peaſant or boatmen is ſatisfied; the higher ranks, however, live with more delicacy, although their fare is never very ſumptuous.

The climate of every part of the Birman empire, which I have viſited, bore teſtimony to its ſalubrity, by the beſt poſſible criterion, the appearance and vigour of the natives. The ſeaſons are regular, and the extremes of heat and cold are ſeldom experienced; at leaſt the duration of that intenſe heat, which immediately precedes the commencement of the rainy ſeaſon, is ſo ſhort, that it incommodes but for a very little time. During our reſidence in the country we loſt only one man by diſeaſe; and another met an accidental death: in wandering through the woods, he became the prey of a tiger.

The Birmans are a lively, inquiſitive race, active, iraſcible, and impatient; the character of their Bengal neighbours is too well known, as the reverſe, to need any delineation; the unworthy paſſion of jealouſy, which prompts moſt nations of the eaſt to immure their women within the walls of an haram, and ſurround them with guards ſeems to have ſcarcely any influence over the minds of this extraordinary and more liberal people. Birman wives and daughters are not concealed from the ſight of men, and are ſuffered to have as free intercourſe with each other as the rules of European ſociety admit; but, in other reſpects, women have juſt reaſon to complain of their treatment; they are conſidered as not belonging to the ſame ſcale of the creation as men, and even the law ſtamps a degrading diſtinction between the ſexes; the evidence of a woman is not received as of equal weight with that of a man, and a woman is not ſuffered to aſcend the

ſteps of a court of juſtice, but is obliged to deliver her teſtimony on the outſide of the roof. The cuſtom of ſelling their women to ſtrangers, which has before been adverted to, is confined to the loweſt claſſes of ſociety, and is perhaps oftener the conſequence of heavy pecuniary embarraſſment, than an act of inclination; it is not, however, conſidered as ſhameful, nor is the female diſhonoured: partly perhaps from this cauſe, and partly from their habits of education, women ſurrender themſelves the victims of this barbarous cuſtom with apparent reſignation. It is alſo ſaid that they are very ſeldom unfaithful to their foreign maſters; indeed they are often eſſentially uſeful, particularly thoſe who trade, by keeping their accounts and tranſacting their buſineſs: but when a man departs from the country, he is not ſuffered to carry his temporary wife along with him; on that point the law is exceedingly rigorous; every ſhip, before ſhe receives her clearance, is diligently ſearched by the officers of the cuſtom-houſe: even if their vigilance were to be eluded, the woman would be quickly miſſed; and it would be ſoon diſcovered in what veſſel ſhe had gone, nor could that ſhip ever return to a Birman port but under penalty of confiſcation of the property, and the infliction of a heavy fine and impriſonment on the maſter: female children alſo, born of a Birman mother, are not ſuffered to be taken away. Men are permitted to emigrate; but they think that the expatriation of women would impoveriſh the ſtate, by diminiſhing the ſources of its population.

One vice is uſually the parent of another: the Birmans, being exempt from that of jealouſy, do not reſort to the diabolical practice of emaſculating male children, to educate them as ſpies over their women. Chaſtity, they know, is more ſafely guarded by principles of honour and attachment than by moats or caſtles. When Aaracan was conquered by the Birmans, ſeveral eunuchs were made priſoners, belonging to the prince of the country, who had adopted that degenerate cuſtom of Mahomedan growth. Theſe people are maintained by the Birman monarch rather as memorials of his conqueſt, than for any ſervices they are required to perform. Infidelity is not a characteriſtic of Birman wives; in general they have too much employment to leave leiſure for the corruption of their minds. A woman of the higheſt rank ſeldom ſits in idleneſs at home; her female ſervants, like thoſe of Grecian dames of antiquity, ply 'the various labours of the loom:' while the miſtreſs ſuperintends and directs their induſtry. On the occaſion of a formal viſit to the mother of the preſent queen, we obſerved in one of the galleries of her palace, three or four looms at work, wrought by the damſels of her houſehold. Weaving is chiefly a female occupation. Moſt Birman families make all the cotton and ſilk cloth that is required for their domeſtic conſumption.

The Birmans, in ſome points of their diſpoſition, diſplay the ferocity of barbarians, and in others, all the humanity and tenderneſs of poliſhed life: they inflict the moſt ſavage vengeance on their enemies; as invaders, deſolation marks their track, for they ſpare neither ſex nor age; but at home they aſſume a different character; there they manifeſt benevolence, by extending aid to the infirm, the aged, and the ſick: filial piety is inculcated as a ſacred precept, and its duties are religiouſly obſerved. A common beggar is no where to be ſeen: every individual is certain of receiving ſuſtenance, which, if he cannot procure by his own labour, is provided for him by others.

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OBSERVATIONS RESPECTING OYSTERS.

Concluded from Page 611.

IRELAND has very abundant oyſter-banks near the village of Arklow, on the eaſtern ſide of Dublin, from which ſeed is conveyed to the artificial beds of the capital on the northern ſide near Clontarf; and further ſouth, at Sutton, not far from Howth. Alſo at Polebeg and Dalkey, not far from Dublin; and particularly Ireland's Eye, where the largeſt and beſt oyſters lie at the depth of about eighteen or twenty fathoms under the water. Likewiſe to the north of Dublin, near Ruſh and the Skerries, where the oyſters are ſalter and harder than in places where more freſh water falls into the ſea. Scotland has great abundance of oyſters near the iſland of Inch Keith, which is not far from Leith. Theſe ſhell-fiſh are found in various places on the coaſt of France; ſuch as the mouth of the Seine, where, though few in number, they are of an excellent quality. On the coaſt of Caen, in Normandy, there is a bank ſix miles in length and one in breadth. They are found alſo in the Bay of Iſigny, and in the neighbourhood of Cherbourg. Thoſe in particular are highly valued which are collected at the mouths of ſome ſtreams where the ſea-water is ſometimes thrown entirely back, and which are called *huitres de pied*. Granville, in Normandy, gains 50,000 livres by this fiſhery. On the coaſt of Brittany there are very large oyſters, particularly at Concalle, where a great many are preſerved in places encloſed for the purpoſe. The bank at Painpol is almoſt entirely exhauſted. At the mouth of the Loire, between the rocks on the coaſt of Poitou, on the coaſt of Aunis and Saintonge, where thoſe who make bay-ſalt tranſplant oyſters to marſhy places, in which they acquire a better quality, though they never become ſo good as the green ones of Saintonge: alſo *a la tete de Buch*, near Bourdeaux. In Languedoc, near Cape Leucate, there is an oyſter-bank at the depth of twenty feet. At the mouth of the Rhone, on the coaſt of Provence. At Paris thoſe oyſters are moſt eſteemed which come from Bretagne, Rochelle, Bourdeaux, and particularly from M doc.

The Dutch have ſome oyſter-beds on the coaſt of Zealand, near Zierikzee; oyſters are kept there alſo in pits as well as at the town of Brouwerſhaven, and particularly at Petten in North Holland: thoſe of the laſt-mentioned place are much eſteemed, and are known under the name of Petten oyſters. For theſe pits * many ſhip loads are tranſported every year from the coaſts of England.

There are exceedingly rich oyſter-banks in the dutchy of Holſtein and in the neighbourhood of Jutland, which ſupply moſt of the oyſters uſed in the northern part of Germany. I entertained hopes that we ſhould have obtained a complete deſcription of theſe oyſter-beds in the highly valuable collection of the *Provinzial blattern* of Schleſwig-Holſtein, as well as of the trade to which they give riſe; but hitherto this hope, as far as I know, has never been realiſed. It gives me greater pleaſure, therefore, to be able to ſupply in ſome meaſure this deficiency, by the information on that ſubject, which, by the means of profeſſor Tychſen and M. Adler, I obtained from M. Todſen, a clergyman at Ubergh near Tondern.

The royal oyſter-beds lie all together on the weſtern coaſt of the dutchy of Schleſwig, between the iſlands Fanoe, Rom or Romoe, Sylt, Fohr,

* *Oeſterpulten waaren de oeſters geſpeeud worden.* Oyſter-banks firſt aroſe on the coaſts of Holland about the beginning of this century, a few years before it began to be obſerved that ſhips were deſtroyed by ſea-worms, as we are informed by Selius in his *Hiſt. nat. teredinum.*—See alſo Leeuenhoek's *Arcana naturæ*, or *Experimenta et contemplat.*

Amrom, Noroſtrand, Silworm, Suderog, and extend from the diſtrict of Ripen to Helgoland. The number of the beds from which oyſters can be fiſhed, is at preſent reckoned to be fifty: the greater part of them take their names from the perſons by whom they were diſcovered. Some of them are a furlong, ſome a quarter of a mile, and ſome half a mile in length; and their breadth is equally various. M. Todſen aſcribes, and with great propriety, the excellent quality of theſe oyſters to the water which in the ſpring is ſwept by a continued eaſt wind, that blows from the continent through the canal and ſluices. The oyſters of theſe different banks are not all of the ſame kind; in ſome they are large, in others of a moderate ſize, and in many only ſmall: the laſt, were they left to grow older, would never attain to a larger ſize. The large oyſters are called *deputat-auſtern*, the beſt *kaufmanſauſtern*. Till the year 1794, the royal chamber of domains let theſe oyſter-banks to the higheſt bidder for the term of ſix years; but as this period was too ſhort for the perſons who took the leaſe, and prejudicial to the fiſhery, they were let to the preſent leſſee, M. Aſmuſſen, merchant in Tondern, during his natural life, from the year 1795, for the yearly ſum of 7505 dollars, which muſt always be paid in advance. He has bound himſelf to furniſh yearly 112½ barrels of oyſters to be delivered from time to time, but each time never leſs than four, and never more than eight barrels, carriage free, at Hadersſlaben, for the royal family. This city is diſtant about ten miles from the village of Hoyer, where the oyſters are landed, and which is a mile from Tondern. The leſſee is permitted to fiſh for and ſell oyſters only during the four laſt and the four firſt months of the year. The inſtruments uſed for fiſhing up theſe oyſters are of the ſame kind as thoſe employed in other countries. The moſt common is a kind of drag-net made of thongs of ſeals ſkin, worked together, and faſtened to an iron frame which ſcrapes up the oyſters. Theſe nets, when the fiſhermen have arrived at the proper place, are let down by means of ropes made faſt to the iron frame. M. Aſmuſſen uſes at preſent eighteen veſſels, which are perfectly ſimilar to thoſe of which figures have been given by Duhamel. The fiſhermen bring their lading either to the above-mentioned village of Hoyer or to Huſum*, which is ſeven miles from Tondern. From there the oyſters are conveyed to Apenrade and Flenſburg, and thence in ſhips to the Eaſt Sea, where the conſumption is greateſt, for a barrel ſometimes is ſold there at the rate of 100 roubles. It is not true that they coſt dearer to the natives than to foreigners, a hundred coſt a dollar; and a barrel, containing from 800 to 1000 oyſters, about ten dollars, ſometimes more or leſs.

The number caught, and the conſumption, vary exceedingly in different years. During ſtormy weather and ſevere froſt, none can be fiſhed. The number fiſhed up yearly, the leſſee, for reaſons which cannot be diſapproved, has hitherto kept a ſecret; but it is certain that 2000 barrels would ſcarcely be ſufficient to pay the rent and expences.

Theſe ſhell-fiſh are more or leſs injured by froſt and ſtormy weather, according to the depth at which they lie. Some beds at high tides have only eight, ſome three, and ſome ſcarcely two fathoms water above them; and the laſt ſuffer moſt when continued froſt prevails with a wind from the eaſt or north, becauſe on thoſe occaſions the tide is ſcarcely perceptible on this

* I have been told by a friend that prayers for the preſervation of this oyſter-bed formerly were offered up in the church of Huſum; but this has been omitted for ſeveral years paſt, becauſe the owner refuſed to allow the clergyman about two hundred oyſters, which he claimed for performing that duty.

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coaſt. The beds during ſtormy weather are ſometimes covered with ſand and ſea-weeds, but by the ſame cauſe they may be freed from them. Thoſe beds which are in danger of being covered with mud, ſand, ſhells, or ſea-weed, the fiſhermen endeavour to keep clean by continual fiſhing on them; but thoſe beds which contain a great number of young oyſters they ſpare as much as poſſible.

The five-fingered fiſh infeſts theſe beds, but the oyſter-fiſhers call it the ſtar-fiſh. A long red worm, alſo, with a great number of feet, is found among thoſe oyſters which are old and ſickly. Oyſters of three years old are accounted for ſale. The leſſee is forbidden, under the ſevereſt penalties, to fiſh up any younger. The fiſhermen muſt carefully ſeparate the young ones from thoſe which are eatable, and throw them back into the beds. To be able to diſtinguiſh the three years old oyſters, it is neceſſary to be well acquainted with the beds where they are found: if this is the caſe, they may be eaſily known from the young oyſters by their form, and the ſize of their ſhell.

The oyſter-banks of Jutland lie on the eaſtern ſide of the northern extremity, near Fladſtrand, a market-town, where there is a paſſage over to Norway; alſo at the iſland of Leſſoe, ſituate in the Cattegat, three miles from Sabie, in the diſtrict of Aalborg. Reſpecting the fiſhery, ſeveral regulations have been publiſhed, one of which is dated February 1709. Attempts have often been made to tranſplant oyſters to the large bays which extend from the Cattegat twenty miles acroſs the country, and nearly interſect it; but they have been attended with as little ſucceſs as thoſe on the coaſt of Seeland.

Norway has excellent oyſters, and in great abundance on the weſtern coaſt. The beſt are thoſe found on the rocks, and called rock-oyſters. Many of them are pickled, and ſent in jars and other veſſels, which contain the ſixteenth part of a barrel, to different parts of the eaſt ſea. Theſe oyſters often contain pearls; but they are not of a large ſize, and never have complete ſplendour.

Sweden has excellent oyſters on the coaſt of Bahus-Lan, near the iſland of Kaſtero, a mile from Stromſtad, from which they are ſent, as well as from Udewalla, to every part of the kingdom. The fiſhermen there pretend that, when an oyſter-bed has been exhauſted, it requires from four to five years before it is again ſtocked.

Italy has oyſters of different qualities. Thoſe found near Ancona are of a large ſize, but not very well taſted. Thoſe are accounted the beſt which are produced in prodigious multitudes near Tarento, in the ſea called *Mare Piccolo*, or *Il Picciol Mare*, which is a large bay that extends paſt Tarento toward the north-eaſt.

The Mediteranean ſea, in general, has more ſhell-fiſh than the ocean any where contains in the ſame ſpace; but no part of it is more abundant in this reſpect than the *Golfo Tarrantino*, the harbour of the city, and the *Picciol Mare*. Fiſhing is the principal or only occupation of the inhabitants, who chiefly live by it: on this account the greateſt care is taken to preſerve and increaſe the oyſter-beds. At preſent there are ſeven, which belong partly to the king, partly to the clergy, and partly to private perſons. They are all let on leaſe. Thoſe who pay to the proprietors 30 carlini may fiſh for oyſters till St Andrew's day. It is aſſerted that they bring in yearly 21,348 ducats, and that the duty on all the oyſters and ſhell-fiſh which are ſent from the city amounts to 5615. If we add to this what is gained by the preparation of byſſus (*lana pinna**)

* A kind of ſilky threads, about five or ſix inches in length, which ſome kinds of ſhell-fiſh (*mytilus pinna*) throw out, and with which they attach themſelves to the rocks and other ſolid bo-

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we may eſtimate, according to the aſſertion of the archbiſhop Joſeph Capece-Latro, the whole annual return at 100,000 ducats. Great care is here taken that the oyſters may not be diſturbed during the time they are ſpawning, and that all the young ones be thrown back again into the ſea. It is generally believed here that all ſhell-fiſh are fatteſt and fulleſt at the time of the full moon.

The oyſters of the *Mare Piccolo* are at preſent to the rich Italians what thoſe of the Lucrine lake were to the ancients. This lake extended in Campania from Baiæ to the lake Avernus, and was ſeparated from the ſea only by a mole; but, though it has been celebrated by ſo many poets, it is at preſent only a pond, which is ſcarcely ſufficient for watering cattle. In the year 1538, on St Michael's day, an earthquake, which had continued ſome time, became ſo violent that the lake retired from its banks, and its baſon was almoſt entirely filled up; as was the caſe, in part, with the lake Avernus. The neighbouring ſmall town of Tripergala was ſwallowed up with all its inhabitants and riches. It contained a great many monks and nuns, who, it is ſaid, led very irregular lives. 'It might have been expected,' ſays Blainville, 'that the gulph would have been ſatisfied with the nuns and monks, and that it would not have carried its revenge further: but this was not the caſe; as a monument to poſterity, it threw up ſuch a quantity of filth, that it produced a mountain a mile in height and four miles in circumference.'

For ſome years paſt oyſters have been brought to Hamburgh from the following places, though from many of them their arrival is accidental:—London; Havre; Schelling, an iſland near the coaſt of Weſt Frieſland; Borkum, an iſland near Groningen; Soltkamp, in the province of Groningen; Wangeroeg; Feverſham; Amerum or Amroen, an iſland near Rypen; Schirmerkog, and Feburſon.

dies. When theſe threads are burnt, they emit, as ſilk does, a ſmell like that of urine. The *pinna marina* throws out a *byſſus*, which is fit for being manufactured, and is valued more than wool.

MEMORABILIA OF AUGUST.

Pour'd from the villages, a numerous train
Now ſpreads o'er all the fields. In form'd array
The reapers move, nor ſhrink for heat or toil,
By emulation urg'd. Others diſperſ'd
Or bind in ſheaves, or load or guide the wain
That tinkles as it paſſes. Far behind,
Old age and infancy with careful hand
Pick up each ſtraggling ear.

THIS month was originally called by the Romans *ſextilis*, or the ſixth month from March, but was afterward called Auguſt, in honour of Auguſtus Ceſar, becauſe in the ſame month, he was created conſul, thrice triumphed in Rome, ſubdued Egypt to the Roman empire, and made an end of civil wars. In our region it is better known as the month in which the farmer is enabled to reap the benefits of all his toil and expectation, and if we may believe the general reports of the fertility of the preſent ſeaſon, the harveſt-home will be this year celebrated with more than common feſtivity.

Among the remarkable events of this month, are ſome of thoſe military and naval exploits, which have added renown to the Britiſh name. On the 1ſt of Auguſt, was fought the battle of Minden, in which Prince Ferdinand of Brunſwick gained a complete victory over the French. This victory was in great meaſure attributed to the proweſs

proweſs of the Engliſh troops; unfortunately, however, the Britiſh and Hanoverian horſe, commanded by Lord George Sackville, had no ſhare in this victory. Smollet poſitively ſays, that 'orders were ſent, during the action, to bring them up, but whether theſe orders were contradictory, unintelligible, or imperfectly executed, they did not arrive in time to have any ſhare in the action; nor, indeed, were they originally intended for that purpoſe; nor was there the leaſt occaſion for their ſervice; nor could they have come up in time and condition to perform effectual ſervice, had the orders been explicit and conſiſtent, and the commander acted with all poſſible expedition.' This, however, was far from being the general opinion, and ſuch was the diſſatisfaction with Lord George Sackville's conduct, that he inſiſted upon a trial, which, it is well known, ended in his being adjudged unfit to ſerve his majeſty in any military capacity whatſoever.

On the ſame day, however, was fought a battle, too recent to require a detail, in which bravery and victory were unſullied by any ſuch neglect, the ever memorable battle of the Nile, which, both in deſign and execution, has ſcarce a parallel in our hiſtory.

Not leſs honourable, although in a diſtant and dark period of the Britiſh annals, was the battle of Crecy or Creſſy, fought by Edward III, on the 23d of this month, againſt the French. No victory could be more deciſive; on that day there fell, by a moderate computation, 1200 French knights, 1400 gentlemen, 4000 men at arms, beſide about 30,000 of inferior rank. But what renders this battle particularly remarkable is that, according to ſome hiſtorians, Edward, beſide the reſources which he found in his own genius and preſence of mind, employed alſo a new invention againſt the enemy, and placed in his front ſome pieces of artillery, the firſt that had been made uſe of on any remarkable occaſion in Europe. This, therefore, is the epoch of one of the moſt ſingular diſcoveries that has been made among men; a diſcovery which changed by degrees the whole art of war, and by conſequence many circumſtances in the political government of Europe. But the ignorance of that age (1346) in the mechanical arts, rendered the progreſs of this new invention very ſlow. The artillery firſt framed were ſo clumſy, and of ſuch difficult management, that men were not immediately ſenſible of their uſe and efficacy. And even to the preſent times, improvements have been continually making on this furious engine, which though it ſeemed contrived for the deſtruction of mankind, and the overthrow of empires, has in the iſſue rendered battles leſs bloody, and has given greater ſtability to civil ſocieties. Nations by its means have been brought more to a level: conqueſts have been leſs frequent and rapid: ſucceſs in war has been reduced nearly to be a matter of calculation: and any nation overmatched by its enemies, either yields to their demands, or ſecures itſelf by alliances againſt their violence and invaſion.

The battle of Boſworth, fought in this month, between Richard III, and Henry Earl of Richmond, afterward Henry VII, was of great importance to England, by relieving the country from a tyrant, who, although he has met with partizans among the later writers, never ſcrupled to commit the moſt horrid crimes to promote his ambition,

In more modern times, the battle of Hockſtadt added, in this month, to the renown of the gallant duke of Marlborough. This battle, better known as the battle of Blenheim, from having been fought at a village of that name, has given a commemorating name to the noble edifice, reared by the liberality of the nation in Woodſtock-park, Oxfordſhire.—In the ſame month, the taking of the

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Havannah by Lord Albemarle and Admiral Pococke, nearly completed the brilliant ſucceſſes of the Engliſh over Spain, which had been induced by the court of France to take part in a war in which ſhe could have no intereſt.

The two remaining events of this month, which we ſhall notice, reſpect the French nation, and whoever conſiders the ſanguinary diſpoſition of that nation, will perceive a connexion between them, and between ſome ſimilar events, which we ſhall have to record in the enſuing month. We allude at preſent to the maſſacre of St Bartholomew in 1572, and to the maſſacre at the Tuilleries in 1792. Of the latter event, many particulars demonſtrate the horridly barbarous diſpoſition of a French populace. Not leſs in atrocity was the maſſacre of the proteſtants, on the eve of St Bartholomew in 1572. The court gave orders for this, and the Pariſians ſeconded with avidity the fury of that court: the ſtreets of Paris flowed with blood; and the people, more enraged than ſatiated with their cruelty, as if repining that death had ſaved the victims from farther inſult, exerciſed on their dead bodies all the rage of the moſt licentious brutality. About five hundred gentlemen and men of rank periſhed in this maſſacre, and near ten thouſand of inferior condition in Paris alone. How like is all this to what we have witneſſed in our own days? Where the diſpoſition to cruelty exiſts, of what conſequence is it, whether ſet on by a court or by a faction! or whether the pretended motive be religion or liberty?

Of illuſtrious *births* in this month, we have few to enumerate: Fenelon, the celebrated archbiſhop of Cambray, and author, among other works, of that very popular work, "The Adventures of Telemachus," which loſt him his favour at court, for it was conſidered as a ſatire on the government of Louis XIV. but the world has agreed to admire it for the flowing elegance of the ſtyle, the ſublimity of the moral, and the happy adoption and embelliſhment of ancient ſtories; and critics were long divided, whether it might not be allowed the title of an epic poem, though written in proſe. Few works have ever had a greater reputation. Editions have been multiplied in every country in Europe, and our own has produced at leaſt two in a very ſplendid form. To Fenelon may be added our celebrated Dryden, and the no leſs diſtinguiſhed, although in a different reſpect, Dr Richard Mead, whoſe abilities and eminence in his profeſſion, united with his learning and fine taſte, for thoſe arts, which embelliſh and improve human life, long rendered him an ornament, not only to his own profeſſion, but to the nation and age in which he lived. He was a native of Stepney. The following anecdote of him is but little known. He never took a fee of any clergyman, but one; and that was Mr Robert Leake, fellow of St John's College, Cambridge; who, being fallen into a valetudinarian ſtate, dabbled rather too much with the writings, and followed too cloſely ſome of the preſcriptions of the celebrated Dr Cheyne. Being greatly emaciated in a courſe of time, by keeping too ſtrictly to that gentleman's regimen, miſapplying perhaps his rules, where the caſe required a different treatment, his friends adviſed him to apply to Dr Mead; which he did, going directly to London to wait on the doctor, and telling him that "he had hitherto obſerved Cheyne's directions, as laid down in his printed books." Mead, with ſome degree of pride and paſſion, immediately d—nd Cheyne and his regimen. "Follow my preſcriptions," ſays he, "and I will ſet you up again." Mr Leake ſubmitted; and beginning to find ſome benefit, he aſked the doctor every now and then, whether it might not

not be proper for him to follow at the ſame time, ſuch and ſuch a preſcription of Cheyne; which Mead took ill. When the well-meaning patient was got pretty well again, he aſked the doctor, what fees he deſired or expected of him. "Sir," ſaid the phyſician, "I have never yet, in the whole courſe of my practice, taken or demanded, any, the leaſt fee, from any clergyman. But ſince you have been pleaſed, contrary to what I have met with in any other gentleman of your profeſſion, to preſcribe to me, rather than to follow my preſcriptions, when you had committed the care of your recovery to my ſkill and truſt, you muſt not take it amiſs, nor will I hope, think it unfair, if I demand ten guineas of you." The money, though not perhaps without ſome little reluctance, was paid down. The doctor, at the ſame time, told Leake, "You may come to me again, before you quit London." He did ſo; and Mead returned him ſix guineas out of the ten, which he had received.

Our liſt of deaths is rather more numerous, but conſiſting in general of perſons ſo well known, or who have been mentioned in former *Memorabilia*, that we ſhall do little more than enumerate the names of the very celebrated Admiral Blake, Villiers Duke of Buckingham, Sir William Wallace, the noted Scotch Champion, Grotius, renowned for his political and theological writings, Thomſon, the author of the Seaſons, Lord Littleton, and thoſe diſtinguiſhed artiſts Gainſborough, and Wright of Derby. To theſe may be added Frederick III. of Pruſſia, a character diſcuſſed by many able pens, but in which, if we except the glare of the warrior, and ſomewhat of the tinſel of the wit, we ſhall find but little to admire. There is no doubt that he was an able coadjutor of Voltaire, and the other French infidels, in ſubverting Chriſtianity on the continent, but he did not live, as others of that party have, to fall a ſacrifice to that ſavage philoſophy they wiſhed to eſtabliſh.

ON CORRECTNESS.

By the celebrated Dr Akenſide.—Not in his works.

IN converſations that turn upon the ſtate of polite literature among the ſeveral nations of Europe, one hears nothing ſo frequently as complaints of the incorrectneſs of our *Engliſh* authors. And of all our neighbours, the French are univerſally acknowledged our ſuperiors in this reſpect, to the higheſt degree. I have ſeldom dared to oppoſe ſo general a deciſion among men of taſte; though it is to be wiſhed they would tell us the preciſe meaning of the word *correctneſs*, for till that be done, a true-born Engliſhman may fairly refuſe his vote, and ſtand up for the honour of Old England in this particular, againſt a nation which his wiſer progenitors were not wont to look upon as their ſuperior.

It will be allowed, I believe, that an author is correct, in proportion as he avoids thoſe blemiſhes, which are moſt repugnant to the perfection of his particular ſpecies of writing. But the ſeveral ſpecies of writing are themſelves very greatly to be diſtinguiſhed, in point of eminence and dignity. He is a ſtrange critic who thinks a ſonnet or madrigal as much to be regarded as a tragedy, or who talks as ſeriouſly of an eclogue to Iris, as of an epic poem. It ſhould ſeem, then, that the comparative correctneſs of Engliſh and French authors in general, is proportionable to their comparative degrees of perfection in the higheſt kinds of compoſition.

I was expreſſing myſelf in this manner, before a certain company, when Pollio interrupted me. Pollio has a nice taſte rather than a good one. I ſee, ſays he, whither you are going, you would entitle England to more cor-

rectneſs than France, becauſe epic poetry is the higheſt ſpecies of compoſition, and the French have no epic poet ſo perfect as Milton. But remember that correctneſs conſiſts in being free from blemiſhes, and that even this point will be denied you. What think you of the Henriade? Did you ever there meet with blemiſhes ſo ſhocking as in the Paradiſe Loſt?

For my part, ſaid I, the greateſt and moſt ſhocking blemiſh of any poem ſeems to me to be the want of ſuch beauties as are moſt characteriſtic and eſſential to its kind. And in this light, Voltaire's Pretty Thing is full of the moſt incorrigible, unpardonable blemiſhes. 'I ſing that hero who reigned in France, both by right of birth, and by right of conqueſt.' Is this the exordium of an epic poem, or of an engroſſed parchment? I ſhould not have laid hold of ſo minute a point, had the general ſtyle and manner of the poem deſerved more indulgence. I allow it to be very prettily, if you will, to be finely written. Many of the deſcriptions are elegant; many of the characters are well drawn. But an epic poem requires, *not* fine writing, but a ſimplicity and dignity of expreſſion that diſdains to wear finer clothes than that nature which it repreſents. An epic poem requires, not elegant deſcriptions of objects, but the action, the reality of objects; the parts which they play in nature, not the appearances they make to the poet's reflex attention. To draw direct characters of perſons, is the work of an hiſtorian: the epic poet ſhould ſet them before your eyes, and bid their actions and their looks tell you their characters. In ſhort, I eſteem the Henriade as in the ſame claſs of poetry with Dryden's Fables, and there it gives me pleaſure. But if you produce it as an epic poem, it is to me an unanſwerable proof, that the French taſte in epic poetry is extremely *incorrect* and barbarous.

The genius of their language, replied Pollio, is perhaps an inſurmountable obſtacle to their attaining the utmoſt heights of the epic ſpecies. Tragedy is the next in dignity, and there I am ſure, you muſt allow their ſuperior correctneſs and purer taſte. To oppoſe the irregular ſtarts and ſallies of the Engliſh drama to the unity, truth, and juſt economy of the French, is to prefer the vaſt heaps of rock in a quarry, or craggy ſhore, to the proportions of a beautiful temple or theatre.

To unity and truth, ſaid I, in works of art, I am as warmly attached as any man. But as tragic poetry is multiform and various, ſo one part of it may be conſtructed according to the laws of unity and truth, while another perhaps directly contradicts them. There is unity of fable, in which it may be allowed the French greatly exceed us. But in my opinion, the unity of character is prior in dignity; and there I think we as greatly exceed them. I am not accuſing the French tragedians of inconſiſtence, or poetical falſehood in their characters; but I ſay their characters are not always *capable* of inconſiſtence: I mean, they are often ſo vague and undetermined, that you hardly know what they ſhould ſay, or what they ſhould not. Compare them in this reſpect with our Engliſh poets, with Shakſpeare eſpecially, and——

You are ſtill, interrupted my friend, for ſhifting the queſtion. We are diſputing about the comparative purity and correctneſs of the French and Engliſh writers: not about their comparative genius or talents. The unity of character in Shakſpeare, and his vaſt inſight into human paſſions, I dare not call in queſtion: I know the good company would exclaim againſt me, ſhould I but mention a competitor with him in that particular. But this is wholly the energy of natural genius, and in no degree an argument of correctneſs. Correctneſs always ſup-

ſuppoſes reflection, and an inſtrious enquiry by what culture you can beſt render your work perfect.

Be it ſo, ſaid I; I am highly obliged to you, Pollio, for the obſervation. If then to be correct, ſuppoſes deliberation and induſtry, it is evident that an author who applies his induſtry to the moſt important parts of his work, is more correct than another who rather attends to the minute and trivial. For nothing can be a clearer proof of incorrectneſs and want of taſte, than to neglect the chief beauties of your art for the ſake of partial and childiſh refinements. In the general economy of their fable, in the mechanical connexion of their ſcenes, and in the temperance of poetical diſcourſe, the French are allowed to be evidently our ſuperiors. But are there no points of as great conſequence in dramatic poetry, where we can retort the charge of barbariſm, and an unfiniſhed taſte? What think you of the verſification, the rhyme of their tragedies? Is that an inſtance either of a *correct* muſical ear, or of good judgment in the veriſimilitude of imitation, one of the chief articles of eſtabliſhed and authentic criticiſm? What think you of thoſe long declamatory ſpeeches ſo frequent in their tragic poets? Where the poet forgets he is imitating, and ſays pompous things in his proper perſon, when he ought to ſay only natural things, and ſuitable to the condition of his actor. A ſure proof of a raw, young judgment, both in the poet who writes ſo, and in the audience who ſuffers him! And accordingly, both in the Grecian theatre and in the Engliſh, we find this the conſtant practice of their earlieſt writers, and gradually wearing off as the national taſte grew mature; juſt as in the laſt century, rhyme was the mode in tragedy for a while, till our countrymen approached to a more manly judgment, and then even Dryden was aſhamed to patronize it, though ſupported by French correctneſs, and the authority of Corneille and Racine. But their moſt flagrant ill taſte and crudeneſs of imitation, appears in the frenchified air of all their dramatic perſonages. Let the ſcene be India, Conſtantinople, or ancient Rome, the poet always compoſes in Paris. The prettineſs of French manners is above conforming to the cuſtom of the country, but converts a turban, a wreath of feathers, or woolen toga, into the toupee, the ſolitaire and brocade in faſhion. This is mere want of correctneſs and true taſte; and ſhocks one at leaſt as much as any Flemiſh or Venetian picture, where a Jewiſh or Grecian ſubject is repreſented in ruffs and whiſkers, in Swiſs hats and Spaniſh breeches. An inſtance of unſkilfulneſs and barbariſm, far beyond the broken ſcenes and frequent change of place on the Engliſh theatre: theſe indeed ſhew a deficiency or neglect of mechanical contrivance, but the other ſtrikes at the truth, beauty, and utility of poetic imitation, in its moſt eſſential part.

It were eaſy to produce inſtances of a very incorrect taſte among the French, even in little things, as well as in theſe more important points of criticiſm. Were I a Frenchman concerned for the poetical glory of my country, I ſhould lament its unmuſical language, and the impoſſibility of forming it to numbers or harmony. The French ode is an uncertain mixture of different feet, changing at random the rhythmus or movement of the verſe, and diſappointing one's ear, juſt as if a dancer, in the midſt of a minuet, ſhould fall a capering in the harlequin ſtep, or break out into a Lancaſhire hornpipe. Their Alexandrine meaſure, which they call heroic, has its pauſes, or *cæſura*, in every line at the ſame place: ſo that two hammers on a ſmith's anvil, make juſt as much muſic as Racine or Boileau. If this be without remedy in the French language, their language is very un-

fortunate for poetry; but is it not diverting to hear theſe finiſhed critics and maſters of correctneſs, valuing themſelves upon this wretched, unmuſical poverty in their verſe, and blaming the licentiouſneſs of Engliſh poetry, becauſe it allows a variation of the pauſe, and a ſuſpenſion of the period, from one verſe into any part of another? Without which poetry has leſs harmony than proſe.

It is hard to conceive by what means the French acquired this character of ſuperior correctneſs. We have claſſic authors in Engliſh, older than in any modern language, except the Italian; and Spencer and Sydney wrote with the utmoſt taſte, when the French had not one great poet they can bear to read. Milton and Chapelain were contemporaries: the Pucelle and Paradiſe Loſt, were in hand perhaps frequently at the ſelf-ſame hour. One of them was executed in ſuch a manner that an Athenian of Menander's age, would have turned his eyes from the Minerva of Phidias, or the Venus of Apollo, to obtain more perfect conceptions of beauty from the Engliſh poet; the other though foſtered by the French court for twenty years, with the utmoſt indulgence, does honour to the Leonine and the Runic poetry. It was too great an attention to French criticiſm, that hindered our poets, in Charles the ſecond's time, from comprehending the genius and acknowledging the authority of Milton; elſe, without looking abroad, they might have acquired a manner more correct and perfect, than French authors could or can teach them. In ſhort, unleſs correctneſs ſignify a freedom from little faults, without enquiring after the moſt eſſential beauties, it ſcarce appears on what foundation the French claim to that character is eſtabliſhed.

HISTORICAL ANECDOTES OF MUSIC IN ENGLAND.

During the preſent and concluding century.

DURING the laſt century, whatever attempts were made in muſical drama, the language ſung was always Engliſh. About the end of that century, however, Italian ſinging began to be encouraged, and vocal as well as inſtrumental muſicians from that country began to appear in London. The firſt muſical drama, performed wholly after the Italian manner in recitative for the dialogue or narrative parts, and meaſured melody for the airs, was Arſinoe queen of Cyprus, tranſlated from an Italian opera of the ſame name, written by Stanzani of Bolgona. The Engliſh verſion of this opera was ſet to muſic by Thomas Clayton, one of the royal band, in the reign of William and Mary. The ſingers were all Engliſh. The tranſlation of Arſinoe, and the muſic to which it is ſet, are execrable; yet ſuch is the charm of novelty, that this miſerable performance, deſerving neither the name of a drama, by its poetry, nor of an opera by its muſic, ſuſtained 24 repreſentations, and the ſecond year eleven.

Operas, notwithſtanding their deficiencies in poetry, muſic, and performance (no foreign compoſer or eminent ſinger having yet arrived) became ſo formidable to our actors at the theatres, that it appears from the Daily Courant, January 14, 1707, a ſubſcription was opened 'for the encouragement of the comedians acting in the Haymarket, and to enable them to keep the diverſion of plays under a ſeparate intereſt from operas.'

Mr Addiſon's opera of Roſamond appeared about this time; but the muſic ſet by Clayton is ſo contemptible, that the merit of the poetry, however great, could not of itſelf long ſupport the piece. The choice of ſo mean a compoſer as Clayton, and Mr Addiſon's partiality to his abilities, betray a want of muſical taſte in that elegant author.

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The firſt truly great ſinger who appeared on the ſtage of Britain, was Cavalier Nicolino Grimaldi, commonly known by the name of Nicolini; He was a Neapolitan; and though a beautiful ſinger indeed, was ſtill more eminent as an actor. In the Tatler, the elegance, and propriety of his action are particularly deſcribed. The firſt opera performed wholly in Italian, and by Italian ſingers, was Almahide. As at preſent, ſo at that time, operas were generally performed twice a week.

The year 1710 is diſtinguiſhed in the annals of muſic by the arrival in Britain of George Frederick Handel. Handel had been in the ſervice of the elector of Hanover, and came firſt to England on a viſit of curioſity. The fame of this great muſician had penetrated into this country before he himſelf arrived in it: and Aaron Hill, then in the direction of the Haymarket theatre, inſtantly applied to him to compoſe an opera. It was Rinaldo; the admirable muſic of which he produced in a fortnight. Soon after this appeared, for the firſt time, as an opera ſinger, the celebrated Mrs Anaſtatia Robinſon. Mrs Robinſon, who was the daughter of a portrait painter, made her firſt public exhibitions in the concerts at York-buildings; and acquired ſo much the public favour, that her father was encouraged to take a houſe in Golden ſquare, for the purpoſe of eſtabliſhing weekly concerts and aſſemblies, in the manner of *Converſazioni*, which became the reſort of the moſt polite audiences.

Soon after Mrs Robinſon accepted of an engagement at the opera, where her ſalary is ſaid to have been 1000l. and her other emoluments equal to that ſum. She quitted the ſtage in conſequence of her marriage with the gallant Earl of Peterborough, the friend of Pope and Swift. By the way, the preſent century has exhibited three inſtances of ladies having been taken off the public theatres to be married to men of high rank. This is the firſt, afterward followed by Miſs Fenton, who became Ducheſs of Bolton, and a lady of Drury lane theatre, whoſe promotion to the rank of Counteſs is too recent to require ſpecifying.

The conducting of the opera having been found to be more expenſive than profitable, it was entirely ſuſpended from 1717 till 1720, when a fund of 50,000l. for ſupporting and carrying it on was ſubſcribed by the firſt perſonages of the kingdom. The ſubſcribers, of whom King George I. was one for 1000l. were formed into a ſociety, and named the 'The Royal Academy of Muſic.' Handel was commiſſioned to engage the performers: for that purpoſe he went to Dreſden, where Italian operas were at that time performed in the moſt ſplendid manner at the court of Auguſtus Elector of Saxony, then King of Poland.

In the year 1723, the celebrated Franceſca Cuzzoni appeared as a firſt-rate ſinger: and two years afterward arrived her diſtinguiſhed rival, Signora Fauſtina Bordoni.

In a cantabile air, though the notes Cuzzoni added were few, ſhe never loſt an opportunity of enriching the cantilena with the moſt beautiful embelliſhments. Her ſhake was perfect. She poſſeſſed a creative fancy: and ſhe enjoyed the power of occaſionally accelerating and retarding the meaſure in the moſt artificial and able manner, by what in Italy is called the *tempo rubato*. Her high notes were unrivalled in clearneſs and ſweetneſs. Her intonations were ſo juſt and ſo fixed, that it ſeemed as if ſhe had not the power to ſing out of tune.

Fauſtina Bordoni, wife of the celebrated Saxon compoſer, Haſſe, invented a new kind of ſinging, by running diviſions, with a neatneſs and velocity which aſtoniſhed all who heard her. By taking her breath im-

imperceptibly, ſhe had the art of ſuſtaining a note apparently longer than any other ſinger. Her beats and trills were ſtrong and rapid; her intonation perfect. Her profeſſional perfections were enhanced by a beautiful face, fine ſymmetry of figure; and a countenance and geſture on the ſtage which indicated an entire intelligence and poſſeſſion of the ſeveral parts alloted to her. Theſe two angelic performers excited ſo ſignally the attentioned of the public, that a party ſpirit between the abettors of the one and of the other was formed, as violent, and as inveterate almoſt, as any of thoſe that had ever occurred relative to matters either theological or political: yet ſo diſtinct were their ſtyles of ſinging, ſo different their talents, that the praiſe of the one was no reproach to the other.

In leſs than ſeven years, the whole 50,000l. ſubſcribed by the royal academy, beſide the produce of admiſſion to non ſubſcribers, was expended, and the governors and directors of the ſociety relinquiſhed the idea of continuing their engagements; conſequently, at the cloſe of the ſeaſon, 1727, the whole band of ſingers diſperſed. Handel, however, at his own riſk, after a ſuſpenſion of about a twelvemonth, determined to recommence the opera: and accordingly engaged a band of performers entirely new.

The ſacred muſical drama, or oratorio, was invented early in the 14th century. Every nation in Europe ſeems firſt to have had recourſe to religious ſubjects for dramatic exhibitions. The oratorios had been common in Italy during the laſt century; they had never been *publicly* introduced in England, till Handel, ſtimulated by the rivalſhip of other adventurers, exhibited in 1732 his oratorios of Eſther, and of Acis and Galatea, the laſt of which he had compoſed twelve years before, for the Duke of Chandos' chapel at Cannons. The moſt formidable oppoſition which Handel met with in his conduct of the Italian opera, was a new theatre for exhibiting theſe operas, opened by ſubſcription in Lincoln's Inn fields, under the conduct of Nicola Porpora, a reſpectable compoſer. A difference having occurred between Handel and Seneſino, Seneſino had for ſome time deſerted the Haymarket, where Handel managed, and was now engaged at the rival theatre of Lincoln's Inn fields. To ſupply the place of Seneſino, Handel brought over Careſtini, a ſinger of the moſt extenſive powers. His voice was at firſt a powerful and clear ſoprano: afterward it changed into the fulleſt, fineſt, deepeſt counter-tenor that has perhaps ever been heard. Careſtini's perſon was tall, beautiful and majeſtic. He rendered every thing he ſung intereſting, by energy, taſte, and judicious embelliſhment. In the execution of difficult diviſions from the cheſt, his manner was articulate and admirable. It was the opinion of Haſſe, as well as other eminent profeſſors, that whoever had not heard Cariſtini, was unacquainted with the moſt perfect ſtyle of ſinging. The opera under the direction of Porpora was removed to the Haymarket, which Handel had left. Handel occupied the theatre of Lincoln's Inn fields; but his rivals now acquired a vaſt advantage of attraction, by the acceſſion of Farinelli to their party, who at this time arrived. This renowned ſinger ſeemed to have tranſcended the limits of all inferior vocal excellence. No vocal performer of the preſent century has been ſo unanimouſly allowed to poſſeſs an uncommon power, ſweetneſs, extent and agility of voice, as Farinelli. Nicolini, Seneſino, and Cariſtini gratified the eye as much by the dignity, grace, and propriety of their action and deportment, as the ear, by the judicious uſe of a few notes within the limits of a ſmall compaſs of voice: but Farinelli, without

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the aſſiſtance of ſignificant geſtures or graceful attitudes, enchanted and aſtoniſhed his hearers, by the force, extent, and melliſluous tones of the mere organ, when he had nothing to execute, articulate, or expreſs. Though during the time of ſinging he was as motionleſs as a ſtatue, his voice was ſo active that no intervals were too cloſe, too wide, or too rapid, for his execution.

Handel having loſt a great part of his fortune by the opera, was under the neceſſity of trying the public gratitude, in a benefit, which was not diſgraced by the event: the theatre, for the honour of this nation, was ſo crowded, that he is ſaid to have cleared 800l. After a fruitleſs attempt, by Heidegger, the coadjutor of Handel, in the conduct of the opera, and patentee of the king's theatre, in the Haymarket, to procure a ſubſcription for continuing it, it was found neceſſary to give up the undertaking. It was about this time that the ſtatue of Handel was erected in Vauxhall, at the expence of Mr Tyers, the proprietor of thoſe gardens.

The next year, 1739, Handel carried on oratorios at the Haymarket, as the opera there was ſuſpended. The Earl of Middleſex now undertook the troubleſome office of furniſhing the Italian opera. He engaged the King's theatre, with a band of ſingers from the continent almoſt entirely new. Calluppi was his compoſer. Handel, almoſt ruined, retired at this time to Ireland, where he remained a conſiderable time. In 1744 he again attempted oratorios at the King's theatre, which was then, and till 1746, unoccupied by the opera, on account of the rebellion.

The arrival of Giardini in London this year, forms a memorable era in the inſtrumental muſic of England. His powers on the violin were unequalled. The ſame year Dr Croza, then manager of the opera, eloped, leaving the performers, and innumerable trades-people, his creditors. This incident put an end to operas of all kinds for ſome time.

This year a comic opera, called *Il Philoſofo di Campagna*, compoſed by Calluppi, was exhibited, which ſurpaſſed, in muſical merit, all the comic operas performed in England till the *Bruona Figliola*. Signora Paganini acquired ſuch fame by the airs allotted to her in that piece, that the crowds at her benefit were beyond example. Caps were loſt, gowns were torn in pieces, and ladies in full dreſs without ſervants or carriages, were obliged to walk home amid the merriment of the ſpectators in the ſtreets. At this period (1764-5) the arrival of Manzoli marked a ſplendid era in the annals of the muſical drama, by conferring on ſerious opera a degree of importance to which it had ſeldom yet ariſen ſince its eſtabliſhment in England. Manzoli's voice was the moſt powerful and voluminous ſoprano that had been heard ſince the time of Farinelli: his manner of ſinging was grand, and full of taſte and dignity. At this time, alſo, Tenducci, who had been in England ſome time before, and was now returned much improved, performed in the ſtation of ſecond man to Manzoli.

(*To be Continued.*)

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS ON LIFE AND MANNERS.

From 'The Life and Works of the Rev. Mr Medly, of Liverpool,' juſt publiſhed.

MAN is a ſociable creature, and cheerfulneſs of converſation is that which gives a reliſh to every thing; even life itſelf would be tedious and inſipid without it.

About fifty years ago an eminent divine, who was moſt exactly well bred, told his congregation at Whitehall, that if they did not vouchſafe to give their lives a new turn, they muſt cer-

certainly go to a place, which he did not thing fit to name in that courtly audience.

For men in the midſt of ſuch apparent cauſes of difference, to reſolve to be of no religion, till all are agreed in one, is juſt as wiſe and rational, as if they ſhould determine not to dine till all the clocks in the town ſtrike twelve together.

Proſperity has been the ruin of many. This is indeed the nature of things; adverſity is the beſt guard againſt pride and wantonneſs; and nothing is more certain, than that wealth and power are never miſuſed before they are obtained.

Virtue begins in the forſaking of vice, and the firſt part of wiſdom is not to be a fool.

Holland is a country, where the earth is more pleaſant than the air, and profit more in requeſt than honour; where there is more ſenſe than wit, more good-nature than good-humour, and more wealth than pleaſure; where a man would chooſe rather to travel than live, ſhall find more things to obſerve than deſire, and more perſons to eſteem than love.—Sir W. Temple.

Impatience is ineffectual to any good purpoſe, and always produceth ill effects: it doth not cure our wound, or aſſuage our grief: it removeth no inconvenience, nor repaireth any damage, but rather inflameth our diſtemper, and aggravateth our pain—more really indeed moleſting and hurting us, than the injury or affliction, which cauſeth it—Thus reaſon dictates to us the practice of all patience.

The Greeks at Belgrade village have a curious way in finding out theft. They call the neighbours together, and all kneeling down in the ſtreet in a circle, each of them eats a piece of dry bread; (after ſomething is ſaid) they obſerve whether any of the company choak or not. I ſaw this on Midſummer-day; but nothing was made out.

Good words are cheap enough, and bad ones often happen to be dear.

People give nothing ſo freely and readily as good counſel.

We eaſily forget our faults, when they are known to none but oneſelves.

They who will not hear the *voice* of conſcience, ſhall be ſure to feel the *worm* of conſcience.

Mithridates, king of Pontus, being worſted by the Romans, fearing he ſhould not eſcape, ordered that a great quantity of ſilver and gold ſhould be ſcattered in the way, which while the Roman ſoldiers were buſy in gathering, he made good his retreat.

A divine, ſpeaking of the cauſes of atheiſm, ſays, that a headful of vain and unprofitable notions, meeting with a heart full of pride and ſelf-conceit, diſpoſes a man directly to be an atheiſt.

The devil is never idle, he always goeth about. The world is his dioceſe, and he is every day on his viſitation.

He is no fool, who parts with what he cannot keep, when he is ſure to be recompenſed with what he cannot loſe.

There is nothing ſo formidable as a conſtant and uninterrupted proſperity: we are generally the worſe for being proſperous, and it is too often, that our vices and proſperity grow up together. The world does us the greateſt miſchief when it ſmiles.

We always love thoſe who admire us; but we do not always love thoſe whom we admire.

We meet with few people of good ſenſe, but thoſe that are of our own opinion.

We ſeldom confeſs our own imperfections, but out of vanity.

A man would have but little pleaſure, if he did not ſometimes flatter himſelf.

Miſtruſt yourſelf, and you will not be deceived.

A man is ſometimes a fool with wit, but he is never ſo with judgment.

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

History of Russia, from the Foundation of the Monarchy by Rurik to the Accession of Catharine II. By W. Tooke, F. R. S. 2 Vols. 8vo. Longman and Rees.

THE most interesting part of this eventful history opens to our view at the commencement of the second volume, the subject of the present review. For a long series of years, the Russian empire had been involved in foreign wars, and domestic commotions, engendered, says Mr Tooke, by the discontents and ambition of the Great, and fomented by rancorous competitors for the throne, amongst whom are to be reckoned some cruel usurpers, and bold impostors. Under such disastrous circumstances, little hopes could be entertained of its emerging from a state of barbarism, or of establishing itself as a respectable Power in the northern regions of Europe: on the contrary, its government was reduced to such a state of debility, that the extensive territories of the empire were exposed to the depredations of two potent neighbouring kingdoms, Sweden and Poland; and their respective Sovereigns wished to hold the Russians in a constant state of dependence, by placing a Swedish or a Polish Prince on the throne.

No alternative therefore remained, whereby the happiness of the people could be secured, and the tranquility of the empire restored, but for the whole nation to concur in placing a native Russian on the throne; to disown all attachment to foreign candidates; to unite cordially together; and, by a general union, to prevent that dismemberment of the empire which the Swedes and Poles were meditating. But though it appeared to be the general wish, after the demise of the Tzar Ivanovitch in 1606, to elect a native Russian, the gratification of it was involved in many difficulties, and might again open a wide field for discontents, jealousies, and cabals. For the danger into which the nation had lately been plunged, of being ruined by intestine broils, and subjugated by foreign enemies, had roused the patriotism of a numerous party of Russians, and had afforded them an opportunity of performing important services to their country, both in the Council, and in the Field. These distinguished persons, therefore might now prefer their claims on the national gratitude, and aspire to the crown, by contending for which, a renewal of the late disturbances and confusion might take place, especially "as it might be justly feared that the election of any one of those patriots might be felt as an affront to the rest, who had been equally serviceable to the State, and thus, by creating divisions, reduce the country again to the brink of destruction. These considerations operated so forcibly, that though deputies had arrived at Mosco from all parts of the empire, to give their votes for the election of a new Tzar, they wavered long in irresolution and doubt.

"In the mean time, a party was imperceptibly forming among the Electors, whose wish it was to put a youth upon the throne who had hitherto lived remote from the grand theatre of administration and of war, and consequently was without adherents, and had neither friends nor foes. Mikhaila Romanof was the name of this youth, a descendant of the ancient race of the Tzars. The proposal, however, met with some opposition, several of the Electors refusing him their votes, because he had no knowledge of state affairs; but the testimony that was given of his good conduct, and excellent intellectual endowments, by persons who knew him, prevailed with a majority sufficient for carrying his election, as the most effectual means of preventing the interference of faction. The young man, himself, however, refused at first to accept the offered crown, and his mother implored, with tears, the deputies who were sent to her and her son to spare him the intended honour. But this very refusal confirmed numbers still more in the belief that Mikhaila was the worthiest canditate for the throne, and would prove the happiest Tzar. At length, the deputations returned from the convent of Kostromo to Mosco, bringing with them the consent of the young monarch elect, who soon followed them, and was solemnly crowned on the eleventh of June 1613, after he had sworn to observe the articles that were submitted to his assent.

By this free election, a new æra was formed in the Russian annals; and the

dynaſty commenced, which in our day has raiſed this remote, and formerly obſcure, northern empire, to a zenith of power, ſplendor, and influence in the political affairs of Europe, almoſt beyond example. His portrait is No. 50, In Plate IV. of this volume; and the preſent Emperor, Paul I. is the eleventh Sovereign of this dynaſty, comprising the Empreſſes, who, by marriage and being called to the throne, may be accounted of the ſame family. Elizabeth alone aſcended it by birthright, being the daughter of Peter I.

The reign of Mikhaila fully anſwered the expectations of his ſubjects. Aided by the ſage counſels of his father, who, before his ſon's elevation to the throne, had been eminently uſeful to his country, in the two high ſtations he then held of Metropolitan of Roſtoff, and one of the Ambaſſadors of Ruſſia to the King of Poland, he ſoon concluded a peace with Sweden and Denmark, which left him at liberty to attend to the internal adminiſtration of the empire. The principal eccleſiaſtical dignity in Ruſſia, that of Patriarch, falling vacant, the Tzar judiciouſly conferred it upon his father, the venerable *Philaretes;* and as the Partriarchs always reſided at Moſco, he had him conſtantly near him; and he profited ſo much by his experience and advice, that the Patriarch was generally conſidered as Co-Regent, and ſat, whenever audiences were given, at the right hand of his ſon, whom he excited to thoſe acts of clemency, gentleneſs, and benevolence, for which he is celebrated in hiſtory.

In this reign, according to our hiſtorian, "the ſovereign firſt ſent ambaſſadors to England, Denmark, Holland, and Germany. Thus Ruſſia, which had hitherto been conſidered rather in the light of an Aſiatic than an European power, became more and more known to the reſt of Europe, and rivalſhips now roſe for obtaining treaties and alliances with that empire. But to give farther ſtability to repoſe, to elevate the reſpect of the empire, to amend the laws, to make trade and commerce, manufactures, and agriculture, flouriſh, was reſerved for his ſucceſſors; and fortunately for the Ruſſians, his ſon Alexey, who acceded to the throne in 1645, raiſed a ſolid ſuperſtructure upon the political foundation judiciouſly laid by Mikhaila.

Without entering into details, it will be ſufficient for the guidance of the readers of the Ruſſian hiſtory, to inform them, that as Philip of Macedon paved the way for the renown of his ſon Alexander the Great, ſo it may be truly ſaid, that Alexey, by his wiſe adminiſtration, opened the path to the civilization of his countrymen; and that, in many reſpects, his ſon Peter the Great ſtood indebted to him for his own celebrity, and for the aggrandizement of the empire. "He, in a particular manner, attached to himſelf the gratitude of his ſubjects, by a reformation of the laws, in which he conſulted the nobility, the clergy, and the burghers; and the mildneſs of his government allured Germans, Dutch, Italians, and about 3000 Scotſmen, to ſettle in Ruſſia, which laid the foundation of the Britiſh factory, and of the firſt treaty of commerce between the two countries. The firſt idea of raiſing Ruſſia to a Maritime Power, likewiſe originated with Alexey; and his ſubjects had therefore yet much more to expect from him, if death had not prematurely carried him off in the forty-ſeventh year of his age, after a glorious reign of thirty-one years*. Peter I. being the fruit of a ſecond marriage, did not immediately ſucceed his father. Foedor Alexievitch, the only ſurviving ſon of the firſt marriage, filled the vacant throne for the ſhort ſpace of ſix years, and though extremely infirm of body, diſplayed many excellent talents for the internal adminiſtration of the government; one inſtance of which we record as an example for the preſent enlightened times, in which we might expect it would be better followed. "With equal diligence he provided that the neceſſaries of life ſhould not be kept at too high a price, nor the dealers in them oppreſs the poor."

From the various anecdotes, which

* In a note relating to the domeſtic occurrences of this reign, a curious account is given of the manner, at that period, in which the Tzars of Ruſſia were wont to ſelect their conforts, which bears a near reſemblance to the cuſtom of chooſing a favourite at Conſtantinople, from the beauties of the Seraglio.

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appear to be new, we take the liberty to select two, as specimens of what the reader may expect to find in this volume.

"Peter was always very plain in his dress, kept a very frugal house, was not more than a quarter of an hour at his dinner, and would frequently laugh at his favourite Mentchikof, who, from nothing more than a pie-boy at the corner of a street, being now a Prince, displayed a pomp and magnificence hitherto unequalled, and never sat down to dinner without the music of trumpets and cymbals, and various other instruments." In regard to the simplicity of the emperor's attire, the following is related in the manuscript memoirs of a diplomatic agent, who resided a long time at his court. "On all the solemn festivals, he only wore the uniform of his Preobajenskoi guards. I saw him, in 1721, give a public audience to the ambassadors of Persia. He entered the hall of audience in nothing more than a surtout of coarse brown cloth. When he was seated on the throne, the attendants brought him a coat of blue *gros-de-Naples*, embroidered with silver, which he put on with great precipitation, because the ambassadors were waiting for admittance. During this, he turned his eyes towards a window where the Tzaritza had placed herself to observe the ceremony. Catharine was heard repeatedly to burst into fits of laughter, as the Tzar seemed to her to be astonished at seeing himself so finely dressed; and Peter laughed at it himself, as also did all the spectators. As soon as the ambassadors were gone, Peter threw off his embroidered coat, and put on his surtout. The blue silk embroidered coat is the identical one, which is now on his wax effigy in the academy of sciences, and it was made for his marriage with Catharine I."

Of the rise of Mentchikof we have the following anecdote.—"As he passed a part of his youth in selling pies about the streets, it happened one day, that selling some of his pastry in a house where several persons met to breakfast, one of the party, having drank pretty freely, let some words escape him, that intimated a plot against the Tzar. Mentchikof ran in all speed to the palace, requested to reveal a secret to Peter, and informed him of what he overheard. The Tzar wrapped himself up in a cloak, and hastened to the house pointed out to him by Mentchikof; here, leaning his ear to the door of the room where the people were breakfasting, he heard distinctly what confirmed to him the report of his conductor. He immediately entered, and found himself in the midst of the conspirators. Whether they imagined that his guards were at the door, or whether they were intimidated by his presence alone, all of them fell at his knees, and threw themselves on his clemency. From that moment he took Mentchikof to be about his person, and the pie-boy shortly after became a prince."

Peter was unfortunate in his domestic relations; he had two wives, both of whom were unfaithful to him; and to the first he took such an aversion, that it extended to his only son by her, whom he cruelly put to death, for no other crime but that of escaping from his harsh treatment, by quitting his dominions, and taking refuge at the courts of Vienna and Naples. The horrid executions of Glebof, the favourite of his first wife, and of Moens, whom he detected in the arms of Catharine the second, are related with many extraordinary circumstances that were unknown to former biographers. But widely different was the fate of the two Imperial adultresses. Eudoxia was shut up in a convent, and afterwards repudiated in form; whilst Catharine, who had been raised from the low condition of a menial servant and a prisoner of war, to be the partner of his bed and throne, and who, from a principle of gratitude should have been faithful to him, not only escaped punishment, but was rewarded by succeeding him, and becoming the first female who had governed the empire since the reign of Olga, in the tenth century. However, it must be acknowledged, that in other respects she had shewn herself worthy of all the honours that were conferred upon her, by the good advice she gave to the emperor, and her management of his furious temper, by which she saved the lives of those whom he had doomed to be the victims of his vengeance. But during her short reign of two years, after his death, as an independent sovereign, she lost all that courage, activity, and ardour in the great-

eſt enterpriſes, for which ſhe was ſo remarkably diſtinguiſhed, when ſhe ſhared all dangers with him; for, abandoning the care of all public buſineſs to Mentchikof, ſhe gave herſelf up entirely to luxury and libidinouſneſs. She took, at once, two young noblemen to be her perſonal favourites, and was, beſides, addicted to drunkenneſs. So that it is uncertain whether ſhe died a natural death, or was poiſoned by the partizans of the friends of the young Prince Peter II. and the grandſon of Peter I. and the only ſon of Prince Alexius, whom he had put to death.

No ſooner was this young emperor ſeated on the throne, than Mentchikof carried his arrogance and his influence over him to ſuch a pitch, and exerciſed his power ſo deſpotically, that the number and hatred of his enemies daily increaſed, and a ſtrong party, conſiſting of the moſt reſpectable families of the empire, with Ivan Dolgoruki at their head, who was the daily companion of the emperor, ſoon found an opportunity to effect his ruin; and totally to overthrow his artful plan of ſecuring to himſelf the unlimited controul of his new maſter, by marrying him to his daughter. This miniſterial revolution operated with ſpeedier effect, as Peter felt no affection for Maria Mentchikof, and openly confeſſed that he wiſhed to get rid of her. In fine, this haughty favourite, and his whole family, including the betrothed empreſs, were exiled, in the year 1727, to Siberia, where he died in 1729; and his accumulated treaſures, conſiſting of *nine millions* of rubles in bank notes, one million in caſh, 105 pounds weight of gold, and 420 of ſilver plate, together with one million more in jewels, and a very conſiderable landed eſtate, with ſuperb palaces and furniture, were confiſcated to the crown, from which, and its ſubjects, the greateſt part had been ſurreptitiouſly taken.

The family of Dolgoruki now took his place, and ſo completely, that a young Lady of that houſe was ſelected to be the new empreſs; and it is ſaid, that ſhe made ſo ſtrong an impreſſion on Peter II. the very firſt time he ſaw her, that he aſked her hand of her father, and ſhe was ſoon after publickly affianced to the emperor; but the aſpiring hopes of this young lady and her relations, and the well-founded expectations of the Ruſſians, that they ſhould enjoy every bleſſing under the government of a moſt amiable monarch, were blaſted by his premature death in 1730, at the tender age of *fifteen*. He fell a victim to the ſmall-pox, owing, in a great meaſure, to his conſtitution having been impaired by exceſſive fatigues in hunting, an amuſement which he purſued with too much avidity. He had been crowned at Moſco, and intended to have removed the ſeat of government to that capital, to the great joy of the ancient Ruſſian nobility and gentry, who had an antipathy to the new city, Peter I. having made them ſubmit to enormous contributions when he founded it.

Anna Ivanouna, Ducheſs Dowager of Courland, the ſecond daughter of the Tzar Ivan, half brother, and co-partner in the throne with Peter the Great, was elected in preference to her elder ſiſter, and to Elizabeth, Peter's own daughter, who was in vain urged by her phyſician Leſtoq, to aſſert her claim, upon the extinction of the male line of the Romanofs by the demiſe of Peter II.; and ſhe ſhewed great prudence, in not adopting this meaſure at an æra when the miniſterial uſurpations of power had rouſed the indignatinn of the Senate and the Supreme Council, and induced them to lay ſuch reſtraints on the Sovereign elect, as ſhould put it out of the power of any future favourite to oppreſs the ſubjects. The crown was, therefore, beſtowed on the Princeſs Anna, on ſuch conditions as made the Ruſſian empire, for the firſt time, a limited monarchy; but this ſhadow of freedom was of ſhort duration, for the *Capitulation Oath*, taken on her arrival at Moſco, was annulled by a ſecond oath of allegiance, reſtoring the empreſs to the full and unlimited authority enjoyed by her predeceſſors; and thus the reign of *Favourites* was renewed, and the Empreſs Anna tore the act of capitulation in pieces, in a full aſſembly of the Council and of the Senate, and a manifeſto was publiſhed declaring, that the Empreſs aſcended the throne of her anceſtors *not by election, but in virtue of hereditary right*. The account of this tranſaction, and the copies of the two oaths, are highly intereſting; and we therefore ſtrongly recommend this part of the hiſtory, eſpecially as it ſeems have been the peculiar

culiar fate of modern Ruſſia to have owed all its aggrandizement, and improvements in civilization, in arts, in manufactures, and commerce, to female ſovereigns, amongſt whom may be reckoned the Empreſs Anne; for during a reign of only ten years, the reader will be ſurpriſed to find how much ſhe contributed to the preſent flouriſhing ſtate of Ruſſia, by her excellent eſtabliſhments, and particularly by ſurmounting the prejudices that had prevailed againſt the employment of foreigners.

Not leſs intereſting is the narrative of the ſurpriſing revolution by which the Empreſs Elizabeth aſcended the throne, amidſt the contention of parties, and the ſecret manœuvres of court intrigue, during the ſhort regency of the Princeſs Anne, the wife of Duke Ulric of Brunſwick, and niece to the Empreſs of the ſame name, who died in 1740. This memorable event conſigned the Princeſs, and her infant ſon Ivan, to a priſon, the ſame who was put to death in the reign of Catharine II. From this period the hiſtory is regularly connected with the ſucceeding revolution, the cataſtrophe of Peter III. and the acceſſion of the late Empreſs. It may therefore be read together with, or ſeparately from, the Life of Catharine II. as it contains ſeveral documents recited in the former work. The ſketch of Moſco, which goes far beyond its title, being a full and complete deſcription of that ancient city; and a liſt of foreign authors, denominated *The Sources of Ruſſian Hiſtory*, with a copious index, cloſe this arduous undertaking. M.

Selections from the Correſpondence of General Waſhington and James Anderſon, LL. D. F. R. S. F. A. S. E. &c. &c. In which the Cauſes of the preſent Scarcity are fully inveſtigated. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Cumming.

IN a correſpondence with the late General Waſhington, who would look for a diſcuſſion connected with the ſubject of the recent ſcarcity in Great Britain? Yet here do we find one, more able than any which it has yet been our good fortune to peruſe. We deem it of ſuch importance, and we think that ſo much attention is due to the experience and reputation of Dr Anderſon, that we ſhall make copious extracts from it; imagining that we render ſervice to our country by contributing, as far as we have power, to its publicity.—We find only one letter from General Waſhington; and the laſt and longeſt from Dr A. never reached the juſtly celebrated American, of whoſe lamented death the Doctor received intelligence, when on the point of tranſmitting it.

In a letter from Dr Anderſon, containing very original obſervations on the preſent conteſt between Great Britain and France, the following reflections occur; which, though not deſigned for that purpoſe, form a very apt introduction to the ſubjects canvaſſed in the principal letter on the ſcarcity.

'To ſuch perſons as believe that the ſtability of ſtates, and the happineſs of a people, are to be meaſured exactly by the amount of their wealth, and the extent of their foreign trade and manufactures, facts which prove the proſperity of Great Britain in this reſpect will be deemed of the moſt ſoothing nature; but to me they convey not any ſuch idea. Nations, like individuals, have not their happineſs augmented in proportion to the increaſe of their riches. They generally act with much more propriety when they are in moderate circumſtances, than when ſuperabounding in wealth. Power engenders pride, haughtineſs, and a moſt intolerable ſelf ſufficiency; this diſguſts thoſe with whom they muſt have dealings, and encourages rivals. It creates enemies at the ſame time; enemies, whoſe ill-will is only diſplayed at the firſt in ſecret; but by and by they become open and declared as ſuch. Wars of courſe follow, and many evils which it would be painful to enumerate. Theſe evils will be, to you, very obvious, and might have been (or rather may be) foreſeen by our rulers, whoſe duty it ſhould have been to counteract their influence. This, I am ſorry to ſay, has not been done. Owing to the greater profits that are to be made in trade or manufactures than in agriculture, at the ſame time, that ſuch perſons are more independent of others, and at greater liberty to act as occaſion may require, young men of ſpirit and enterpriſe naturally prefer the firſt, and neglect the laſt. Fiſcal regulations might eaſily be adopted to counteract in ſome meaſure this evil; but this has not been attend-

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ed to. Some late taxes, particularly the ſalt tax and the income tax, have a direct contrary effect; for they preſs much more heavily on country gentlemen and farmers, than on thoſe who are engaged in trade and manufactures; bad is thus made worſe, and a ſpirit of turbulence and inſubordination is diſſeminated among the lower orders of ſociety, which muſt break out on the firſt check that buſineſs, in their particular line, experiences; and this muſt give riſe to a ſyſtem of coercive government that is only productive of general miſery, and individual diſtreſs; not to mention the diſcontents that are never failing attendants on the occaſional recurrence of years of ſcarcity, which are inevitable where this ſyſtem of economy is adhered to.

'None of theſe effects would have been experienced if the leſs brilliant but more ſteady operations of agriculture had been duly cheriſhed and encouraged. There would have been no difficulty in finding other ſources of productive taxes here, had they been ſought for; but it too often happens in financial arrangements, that men overlook the only *certain* means of augmenting the revenue, that of adopting meaſures to promote the health of the body politic in all its members; and, inſtead of ſupplying the gooſe with plenty of nouriſhing food to make her with certainty lay abundance of golden eggs for many years to come, in their eagerneſs to get all the eggs at once, they kill the gooſe herſelf, and thus cut off the ſource of that future ſupply which would have been certain.'

From reſpect for a valuable and venerable body; from a cordial admiſſion of its ſacred claims, founded on its great ſervices to ſociety, and of its rights guaranted by the public faith; and from perſonal regard for numerous individuals who belong to it; we ſhould be the firſt to proteſt againſt ſchemes which were calculated to rob and degrade our clergy: but without meaning to offer any offence, or to countenance any injury to that reſpectable and powerful profeſſion, we may freely avow it as our firm opinion, that it is time to look into the ſubject of tythe, with the view of ſubſtituting for it ſome other mode of ſupporting the clergy; or of regulating it, ſo that it ſhall be no longer a check on agricultural improvement. Recent events at home, the repeated dearths which have occurred of late years, and the new ſituation of things in this reſpect, in the parts of Europe moſt near to us, loudly call for inquiry and reviſal.

It is well known that, in early times, capital and labour were of little conſideration in agriculture; tythe then might be, and actually was conſidered and ſtated to be, a proportion of the produce of the earth; but now, when capital and labour are of ſo much moment in this great concern, the world finds itſelf in circumſtances totally different from thoſe in which it was when tythe was firſt eſtabliſhed among chriſtian nations. A meaſure, therefore, which at that period might have been wiſe and unobjectionable, is become by changes in the eſtate of human affairs, vexatious to the clergy, oppreſſive to the cultivator, and pernicious to the general intereſts of the community. Let us attend to what Dr Anderſon advances on this ſubject:

'In the firſt place, the expence of *cultivating* land, under certain circumſtances, is enormous; ſo that, unleſs it be in very particular ſituations, the operator never can be reimburſed; but, inſtead of adopting ſuch arrangements as to encourage the farmer to go forward in cultivating the ſoil, he is, in this country, ſubjected to one very heavy tax, in particular, that muſt of neceſſity check his operations to an aſtoniſhing degree. *He is liable to have a tenth part of the whole crop carried away; not a tenth of the* free *produce after deducting expences, but one tenth of the* groſs *produce, even if the whole of that produce ſhould not be ſufficient to pay one half of the expence actually incurred: and I have known land cultivated, and with profit, where the whole of the crop for the firſt year would not be equal in value to the tenth part of the money actually expended on the land before that crop could be obtained from it. Thus are both his capital and his induſtry highly taxed—whereas if he ſhall ſit ſtill and do nothing to his land, he is not obliged to pay one tenth of the ſimple produce which has ſpontaneouſly ſprung up without any expence incurred by him, but in many caſes leſs than one fortieth part of it.* Can any thing, I aſk, be more perfectly calculated to arreſt the arm of induſtry in agriculture, and check the produc-

production of corn, than this ſyſtem?'

In oppoſition to the great authority of Dr A. Smith, Dr Anderſon is a friend to the ſyſtem of bounties on the exportation of corn. He refers us to one of his former publications, which met with very particular attention from the diſtinguiſhed perſon whoſe doctrines it controverted. In the preſent tract, he thus ſtates his views of this point:

'Inſtead of correcting the former defects, and adopting remedies that the circumſtances of the caſe called for; which was obviouſly an augmentation rather than a diminution of the bounty, under certain circumſtances, our legiſlators thought proper to purſue a courſe directly the reverſe of this; and, without formally aboliſhing the bounty, they virtually did ſo, by ſo modifying it as that it could by no means anſwer thoſe purpoſes, in regard to the farmer, for which it was originally granted: no corn, therefore, could be then reared by him for the purpoſe of exportation in good years; of courſe, when a bad ſeaſon occurred, the deficiency became very great; the prices roſe, and recourſe muſt be had to importation from abroad to a great amount, for the ſupport of her own people. Thus it has happened, that without any material change in the phyſical ſtate of the univerſe, we have experienced a woful change in the ſtate of our crops; and, inſtead of exporting corn to the amount in ſome years of not much leſs than one million and a half of quarters, which brought in better than two millions per annum, the quantity *im*-ported ſoon came to exceed the exports; *which has gradually increaſed till the preſent moment, when the balance of imports beyond exports amount to nearly one million of quarters, the value of which cannot be leſs than four millions ſterling per annum.*'

The following facts in political economy are too important to be neglected:

'No deſcription of land that is fit for tillage can produce ſo much of human ſuſtenance when in graſs as when in corn; but the difference in ſome caſes is greater than in others. In very rich land, this difference is leſs than in that of an inferior quality. In the richeſt land in this iſland, perhaps the difference can in no caſe be brought lower than in the proportion of three to one; that is to ſay, any acre of ſuch land would afford three times at leaſt the quantity of human food, while under culture that it could do while in graſs. In land of a middling quality the difference will be nearly as ten to one. And if land of a very bad quality be properly improved, and brought to the higheſt degree of productiveneſs of which it is ſuſceptible, it will be more than one hundred to one.'

The influence of agriculture on population is thus illuſtrated:

'In the time of the Moors, that part of Spain which was poſſeſſed by the Mahometans, who were an induſtrious and agricultural people, ſwarmed with inhabitants to an aſtoniſhing degree, and poſſeſſed a luxuriant fertility unequalled at that time perhaps in any part of Europe. Even in the days of Ferdinand and Iſabella, when the induſtry of theſe people had been greatly repreſſed, and their numbers curtailed by the long continued ravages of war, that country ſtill contained a population of *twenty-five millions* of people, who found there abundance of food and to ſpare. At preſent the population of Spain does not exceed *eight millions*, and the deterioriation that has followed the abandonment of agriculture as a favourite purſuit, is ſuch, that even thoſe *few* inhabitants are only able to draw from it a ſcanty ſubſiſtence, which is ſcarcely ſufficient to furniſh them with the bare neceſſaries of life.'

The following remarks alſo deſerve attention:

'Other circumſtances ſtill have a powerful tendency to repreſs the active operations of agricultural improvements in England, whoſe influence ought not to be overlooked on the preſent occaſion. As the radical melioration of land is a troubleſome and expenſive operation, and the returns of that expence can only be expected in the courſe of many years, no man can engage with ſpirit and effect in ſuch an enterpriſe, without a certainty of his being permitted to retain the poſſeſſion of ſuch land for a ſufficient length of time to indemnify himſelf fully for the expence and riſk he muſt incur by ſuch exertions. So far, however, is this inducement to agricultural

ral exertion from being commonly profered to tenants, that a leaſe for a proper length for this purpoſe is altogether unknown; and a great part of the land in this kingdom is farmed without any leaſe at all, merely upon a precarious tenure from year to year. And, what appears to be ſtill more wonderful, this precarious tenure ſeems to give nearly as little uneaſineſs to the tenant, as it proves ſatisfactory to the landlord. As the intereſt of both the parties is evidently hurt by this arrangement, though the welfare of the public is ſtill more eſſentially injured by it, I was greatly at a loſs for ſome time to account for this ſeeming apathy in theſe two claſſes of men to their own intereſt. Nor was it till after a very minute examination of the internal ſtate of this country that it became manifeſt. As it may prove ſatisfactory to you to develope theſe particulars, I ſhall venture briefly to ſtate the prominent circumſtances that effect it.

"The great object of men of extenſive property in this country is to have parliamentary intereſt; they therefore exert themſelves as much as poſſible to have retainers and dependents who may ſupport that intereſt at elections for members to parliament. One great ſource of ſuch influence originates with farmers, many of whom have votes themſelves; and they have ſtill a wider influence in conſequence of the marriages of their daughters, &c. into the families of voters in boroughs, and other ways. Theſe being in general rather of leſs reſpectability than the farmer, and having expectancies from him at his death, are much ſwayed by him. And as he himſelf cannot be conſidered as a free man ſo long as he depends, in a great meaſure, upon the will of his lord for a comfortable ſubſiſtence, theſe farmers are found to be the moſt zealous and ſteady ſupporters they have. This, together with the natural deſire that all men feel to exerciſe ſway over others, eſpecially where, as in this caſe, it does not appear to give much pain to thoſe who ſubmit to it, is a principal reaſon why gentlemen of landed property in general have a predilection for ſhort leaſes, or tenants at will, wherever the cuſtom of the country countenances it.

"I found more difficulty in ſatisfying myſelf about the indifference of the tenant on this head; but a reſidence for ſome time in England has enabled me to diſcover the cauſes of that alſo. It would take up too much room to diſplay the whole; I ſhall only juſt touch upon the principal of them. I have already taken notice of the importance of the *poor's-rates* here in regard to the farmer, and the neceſſity of adverting to them when he covenants for a leaſe. By the farmer, the poor's-rates can be viewed in no other light than as rent. To him it is the ſame thing whether he pays the whole of his rent to the landlord, or a part of it to him and another portion of it to the poor; but there is this difference to him between theſe two—that the landlord's rent is a ſtipulated, fixed ſum, and the other variable. When he enters into a leaſe for a term of years, then, though he binds himſelf at the ſame time, however, alſo to pay another ſum annually to the poor, which is perfectly unfixed; and concerning the amount of which, at a diſtant period, he cannot form the moſt diſtant conjecture. His land we ſhall ſuppoſe at the beginning of his leaſe, to be worth twenty-five ſhillings per acre, and that the poor's-rates are advancing from year to year, and he can ſet no bounds to the extent of that advance, he is afraid to enter into engagements for a long term of years, leſt he ſhould thus bind himſelf to pay more than the land is worth. Should it riſe to ten, fifteen, twenty, or twenty-five ſhillings in the pound, as it is in ſome places, he muſt be undone; for ſuppoſing he has a hundred acres, this, at twenty-five ſhillings, is 125l. per annum, which is, by ſuppoſition, the full value of his land; but ſhould he be obliged to pay 225l. or 200l. or 175l. or even 150l. he would be undone. Contemplating theſe things he heſitates, and is better pleaſed to have it in his power to give up his leaſe when he finds he can no longer hold it with profit, than to take the riſk of ſuch a precarious burthen."

We fear that the ſucceeding brief ſtatement, which muſt excite melancholy reflections in every conſiderate mind, is too well-founded:

"There was a time, while this country had ſome pretenſions to rank as an agricultural nation, that the deſcription of men called *country gentlemen* and *yeomen*, bore a diſtinguiſhed ſhare of reſpecta-

ſpectability in the ſtate, and ſerved, by the ſimplicity of their manner, the ſobriety of their conduct, and the ſoundneſs of their judgment, to moderate exceſſes in government, and to give a kind of ſtability to the empire. They lived at home reſpected, and when they took a ſide in the affairs of government, which was but ſeldom, unleſs to prevent evident abuſes in power, they carried a weight with them that made them be attended to. This arrangement of things we can now only contemplate as one of thoſe that are *paſt*."

It was our wiſh to quote ſome judicious obſervations on the income tax, in which the author points out its evil influence on agriculture, by depreſſing and ultimately annihilating *ſmall land owners*: but they are too extenſive for our limits. Indeed, the importance of the matter contained in this tract has already induced us to aſſign to it a ſpace in our work which is diſproportionate to its ſize. We ſhall be amply recompenſed, however, if we ſhould thus occaſion its merits to be more generally known; and, by rouſing the public attention, induce the author to purſue a ſubject which is ſo momentous to ſociety, and which he is ſo well qualified to diſcuſs. M. R.

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RESCRIPT *to a general insurrection in Hungary.*

"FRANCIS II. &c.—You have given a manifest proof of your fidelity to our Serene Arch-House, and the love for your country, by having, at the Diet in 1796, with one voice, offered a general insurrection of the inhabitants, in defence of the country, and for the welfare and safety of our Serene Family. We delayed to avail ourselves of that offer, to avoid the considerable expences which it would necessarily have caused, and contented ourselves with declaring, that we should employ it, in case of necessity, in virtue of our high royal prerogative, and agreeably to the law. A period actually arrived, when on the 10th of April 1797, we were under the necessity of demanding of you a general insurrection. This duty, imposed upon you by the law, (led by your innate incorruptible fidelity to ourselves and our Serene Arch-House, and your fervent zeal) you so actively and effectually performed, that the numerous insurrection army, exhibiting the most evident proofs of its immutable attachment to its hereditary King, and its purest patriotism, contributed considerably to the treaty of peace concluded at Campo Formio. And when the French nation overthrew these conditions of peace, and again imposed on us the melancholy necessity of opposing our brave warriors in defence of the nations intrusted to us by heaven, to the enemy penetrating into our provinces, the distinguished courage and valour of all our troops, among whom the meritorious Hungarian militia must be included, displayed its well known heroic valour and undaunted courage before the eyes of all the world, and retook the Italian provinces that had been wrested from us. The enemy, thus expelled from those countries, could nevertheless not be brought either to moderate their fury, or to equitable terms of peace, compatible with our high Royal dignity, the preservation and perfect tranquillity of our hereditary dominions entrusted to us by Providence. At last, when after various successes, they obtained a victory, they became so arrogant, that they would neither propose nor accept, in any manner whatever, such conditions of peace as would have been conducive to permanent tranquillity; but, on the contrary, supported by a numerous army composed of people from different countries, threatened all our German hereditary dominions, and our much beloved kingdom of Hungary, from day to day, with greater and nearer dangers, which to avert, and to restore to our people their former prosperity, we are firmly and irrevocably

cably determined to haſten in perſon to the army. All theſe great dangers may be obviated by ſpirited, undaunted conduct, and particularly by your faithful efforts, oppoſed to the enemy, under Divine aſſiſtance. It is ſtill the ſame ruinous war, the ſame furious enemy; the dangers are now greater than before; neceſſity ſo preſſing, that, in the full ſpirit of the law, a general inſurrection of the Nobility, and of all thoſe who are as ſuch compriſed in the meaſure, of whatever rank or dignity they be, become urgent. We, who at all times have placed a particular confidence in the ancient bravery and fidelity, which has been handed down to you by your anceſtors, order therefore, in virtue of our high Royal prerogative, by this preſent reſcript, a general inſurrection of the country, and doubt not in the leaſt that, to effect in conſiderable numbers, and as ſoon as poſſible, you will alſo on this occaſion exert a laudable diligence, according to the duties impoſed on you.

"Since, however, the preſent manner of carrying on war, requires a proportionate and greater number of infantry, and, as agreeably to the preſent circumſtances, the defence of the country muſt be effected ſpeedily, and effectually, we call upon you by virtue of theſe preſents, that in organizing your inſurrectional militia, your object be particularly directed towards a more numerous infantry, which from our paternal affection for our moſt beloved kingdom of Hungary, we think more uſeful; at the ſame time that the expences of raiſing infantry, is by far leſs than that of raiſing cavalry. To diminiſh, therefore, from love to you, the burden of this inſurrection, and to render it eaſier under the preſent circumſtances, we herewith declare, that all inſurrectional infantry, as ſoon as they ſhall have been divided into corps, by order of his Royal Highneſs the Palatinus of the Empire, our beloved brother, they ſhall be furniſhed from our treaſury with bread and money in the country.

"And as, agreeably to the laws of the Empire, the inſurgent warriors muſt neceſſarily have their own method of exerciſe, we have graciouſly appointed the Generals of diſtricts to ſuperintend that object.

"The duties, and the ſphere of operation of thoſe Generals is therefore herewith defined: that thoſe of the diſtricts entruſted to them may correſpond with thoſe of the counties; that they make the neceſſary arrangements; and that they are obliged, in advancing in battle, and retreats, to conduct and direct the inſurgent Nobility.—The central direction of the whole of the armed Nobility remains, however, agreeably to the meaning of the law, in the hands of his Royal Highneſs the Palatinus of the Empire.

"Laſtly, it is alſo neceſſary, that this military to be aſſembled in the field, as preſcribed by law, under the banners of the counties, to effect good order, and to avoid all poſſible confuſion, be divided by the counties themſelves into diviſions and bands, and that they elect for officers the moſt capable and ſkilful, in virtue of the 20th article of 1545."

Vienna, 24th September.

REPLY *of Lord Grenville to the Note of the Count de Wedel Jarlſberg, his Daniſh Majeſty's Miniſter, reſpecting the capture of the Freya Frigate.*

"THE underſigned, Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to his Majeſty, has had the honour of laying before his Majeſty the note which was received yeſterday from the Count de Wedel Jarlſberg, Envoy Extraordinary and Miniſter Plenipotentiary of the King of Denmark.

"It was with the greateſt ſurpriſe and concern that his Majeſty received the firſt intelligence of the affair to which that note relates.—Sincerely deſirous of maintaining thoſe relations of friendſhip and alliance which have ſo long ſubſiſted between Britain and Denmark, his Majeſty has, during the courſe of his reign, given reiterated proofs of that diſpoſition, and which he ſincerely hoped to have ſeen reciprocally entertained by his Daniſh Majeſty; and, notwithſtanding the expreſſions contained in the note of the Count de Wedel Jarlſberg, his Majeſty cannot but flatter himſelf, that it was not really by the orders of the King of Denmark, that this ſtate of harmony has been ſo ſuddenly interrupted, or that a Daniſh officer could have acted conformably to his inſtructions, in thus commencing hoſtilities, by a raſh and unprovoked attack upon

a Britiſh ſhip of war, carrying the flag of his Majeſty and navigating the Britiſh ſeas.

"The impreſſions which ſuch an event have neceſſarily made upon his Majeſty, have derived greater force by the reading of a note in which ſatisfaction and reparation is demanded, as due to the aggreſſors, from thoſe who have ſuſtained the inſult and the injury. His Majeſty duly conſidering the difficult ſituation in which neutral nations are placed by the unexampled conduct and ſingular character of his enemy, has upon many occaſions, during the preſent war, refrained from exerciſing his rights, and from claiming on the part of his Daniſh Majeſty the impartial performance of theſe duties of neutrality, which he profeſſed himſelf diſpoſed to maintain. But the premediated and open aggreſſion which he has juſt ſuſtained, cannot be paſſed over in the ſame manner. The lives of his brave ſailors have been ſacrificed, the honour of his flag has been inſulted almoſt within ſight of his own coaſts, and this procedure has been maintained by conteſting the indiſputable rights, founded upon the moſt evident principles of the rights of nations, from which his Majeſty can never depart, and the moderate exerciſe of which is indiſpenſibly neceſſary, for the maintainance of the deareſt intereſts of his empire.

"The underſigned, in all the reports which he has laid before his Majeſty, has done ample juſtice to the perſonal diſpoſitions which the Count de Wedel has evinced in order to prevent all cauſe of miſunderſtanding between the two countries. He cannot then avoid preſſing him to repreſent to his Court this affair in its true colours, to efface theſe falſe impreſſions, by means of which alone a conduct ſo injurious to his Majeſty could have authoriſed (if even it ever was), and to conſult the intereſt of the two countries, but eſpecially of Denmark, by bearing teſtimony to the diſpoſition with which his Majeſty's government is animated, and by recommending to his Court, in that ſerious manner which the importance of the affair juſtifies and requires, the neceſſity of making, in this critical conjuncture, a ſuitable return, ſo that a prompt and ſatisfactory reply may be made to the demand which his Majeſty has cauſed to be made at Copenhagen, both for reparation for that which has paſſed, and for ſecurity againſt the repetition of ſuch injurious violence.

"In order to give effect to the repreſentation of his Majeſty upon this ſubject, and to furniſh the means of ſuch explanations as may prevent the neceſſity of reſorting to extremities, which his Majeſty looks forward to with regret, he has charged Lord Whitworth with a ſpecial miſſion to the Court of Denmark, and this Miniſter will immediately ſet ſail upon his deſtination. That Court can only ſee in that determination a new proof of the deſire with which the King is animated, to reconcile maintenance of peace with the preſervation of the fundamental rights and intereſts of his empire."

(Signed) "GRENVILLE."

The following are the leading points of the Daniſh reply:

BOTH cuſtom and treaties have no doubt conferred on the belligerent powers the right of ſearching neutral veſſels not under convoy by their ſhips of war, &c. but as this right is not a natural one, but merely conventional, its effects cannot be arbitrarily extended beyond what is agreed to and conceded, without violence and injuſtice. But none of the maritime and independent powers of Europe, as far as the underſigned has obſerved, have even acknowledged the right of permitting neutral ſhips to be ſearched, when eſcorted by one or ſeveral ſhips of war; and it is evident they could not do ſo without expoſing their flag to degradation, and without forfeiting a certain eſſential proportion of their own rights.

Far from acquieſcing in theſe pretenſions, which at preſent are no longer acknowledged, moſt of thoſe powers have been of opinion, ſince this queſtion has been ſtirred, that they ought to hold out an oppoſite principle in all their conventions reſpecting objects of this nature, in conformity with a number of treaties concluded between the moſt reſpectable Courts of Europe, which contain proofs of the propriety of adhering to that principle.

The diſtinction attempted to be eſtabliſhed between ſhips with and without convoy, is moreover equally juſt and natural—for the former cannot be ſup-

ſuppoſed to be in the ſame predicament as the latter.

The ſearch inſiſted upon by the privateers or ſtate ſhips of the belligerent powers, with reſpect to neutral bottoms not accompanied by convoy, is founded on the right of acknowledging their flag, and of examining their papers. The only queſtion is to aſcertain their partiality and the regularity of their inſtructions. When the papers of theſe ſhips are found in ſtrict order, no further examination can be legally enforced; and it is frequently the authority of the government, in whoſe name theſe documents have been drawn up and iſſued, that procures for the belligerent power the ſecurity required.

But a neutral government, by eſcorting, by the armed ſhips of the ſtate, the commercial ſhips of the ſubject, thereby alone holds out to the belligerent powers a more authentic and poſitive pledge than that which is furniſhed by the documents with which theſe ſhips are furniſhed.—Nor can a neutral government, without incurring diſhonour and diſgrace, admit, in this reſpect, the leaſt doubt or ſuſpicion, which muſt be as injurious to that government as they would be unjuſt on the part of thoſe who ſhould entertain or manifeſt them.

And, if it were to be admitted as a principle, that the convoys granted by a Sovereign do not ſecure ſhips of his ſubjects from being viſited by the ſtate ſhips or privateers of foreigners, it would follow that the moſt formidable ſquadron ſhould not have the right of relieving from ſearch the ſhips entruſted to its protection, if that ſearch was exacted by the moſt pitiful privateer.

But it cannot be reaſonably ſuppoſed that the Engliſh Government, which has uniformly, and on the moſt juſt ground, ſhewn a marked jealouſy for the honour of its flag, and who in the maritime wars, in which it has taken no part, has nevertheleſs aſſerted with vigour the rights of neutrality, would ever conſent, ſhould ſuch circumſtances occur, to an humiliating vexation of that nature; and the King of Denmark repoſes too much confidence in the equity and loyalty of his Britannic Majeſty, to harbour a ſuſpicion that it is his intention to arrogate a right which, under ſimilar circumſtances, he would not grant to any other independent power.

It ſeems ſufficient to apply to the fact in queſtion, the natural reſult of theſe obſervations, in order to make it evident that the Captain of the King's frigate, by repulſing a violence which he had no right to expect, has done no more than his duty; and that it was on the part of the Engliſh frigates, that a violation of the rights of a neutral Sovereign, and of a power friendly to his Britannic Majeſty, has been committed.

The King has heſitated to ſignify any formal complaint on this head, as long as he regarded it as a miſconception which might have been done away by amicable explanations between the reſpective commanders of the naval force which the two governments keep up in the Mediterranean: But ſeeing himſelf, much to his regret, diſappointed in that hope, he has only to inſiſt on the reparation that is due to him, and which the juſtice and the friendſhip of his Britannic Majeſty ſeem juſtly to be called upon to ſecure to him.

(Signed) C. BERNSTORF.

POETRY.

Anſwer to a mandate ſent by the Surveyor of the windows, carriages, &c. to each farmer, ordering him to ſend a ſigned liſt of his horſes, ſervants, wheel-carriages, &c. and whether he was a married man or a bachelor, and what children he had.

BY ROBERT BURNS.

SIR, as your mandate did requeſt,
I ſend you here a faithfu' liſt,
My horſes, ſervants, carts and graith,
To which I'm free to tak my aith.

Imprimis, then, for carriage cattle,
I hae four brutes o' gallant mettle,
As ever drew before a pettle.
My *hand-afore* *, a guid auld has been,
And wight and wilfu' a' his day ſeen;
My *hand-a-bin* †, a guid brown filly,
Wha aft has borne me ſafe from Killie ‡,

* The fore-horſe on the left hand, in the plough.

† The hindmoſt on the left hand, in the plough.

‡ Kilmarnock.

And

And your auld borough mony a time,
In days when riding was nae crime:
My *fur-a-bin* †, a guid grey beast,
As e'er in tug or tow was trac'd:
The fourth, a Highland Donald hasty,
A d-mn'd red-wud Kilburnie beastie.
For-by a cowte, of cowtes the wale,
As ever ran before a tail;
An' he be spar'd to be a beast,
He'll draw me fifteen pund at least.

Wheel carriages I hae but few,
Three carts, and twa are feckly new;
An auld wheel-barrow, mair for token,
Ae leg and baith the trambs are broken;
I made a pocker o' the spindle,
And my auld mither brunt the trundle.

For men, I've three mischievous boys,
Run-deils for rantin and for noise;
A gadsman ane, a thresher t'other,
Wee Davoc hauds the nowte in fother.
I rule them as I ought discreetly,
And often labour them completely,
And ay on Sundays duly nightly,
I on the questions tairge them tightly,
'Till faith wee Davoc 's grown so gleg,
(Tho' scarcely langer than my leg),
He'll screed you off *effectual calling*,
As fast as ony in the dwalling.

I've nane in female servant station,
Lord keep me ay frae a' temptation!
I hae nae wife, and that my bliss is,
And ye hae laid nae tax on misses;
For weans I'm mair than weel contented,
Heaven sent me ane mair than I wanted;
My sonsie, smirking, dear-bought Bess,
She stares the daddie in her face,
Enough of ought ye like but grace,
But her, my bonny sweet, wee lady,
I've enough for her already,
And if ye tax her or her mither,
By the L—d ye'se get them a' thegether!

And now, remember, Mr Aiken,
Nae kind of licence out I'm taking,
Thro' dirt and dub for life I'll paddle,
Ere I sae dear pay for a saddle;
I've sturdy stumps, the Lord be thanked!
And a' my gates on foot I'll shank it.

This list wi' my ain hand I've wrot it,
The day and date as under noted;
Then know all ye whom it concerns,
Subscripsi hâc ROBERT BURNS.

† The same on the right hand in the plough.

THE BEES' COMPLAINT.

By James Bonner.

TO the fair, I address my complaint,
Who behold all my grief and my woe;
Though I work notwithstanding restraint,
To the flames I'm condemned to go.

Ah! how hard is the heart of the man,
Who my progeny never doth spare,
But the sulphurous fume he doth fan;
He my nectar without it might share.

In the spring forty thousand I've bred,
For ambrosia I've sent them abroad;
But this treasure my enemies tread,
Like the filth which incumbers their road,
And the Bee hive they fill all with smoke,
Spoil my nectar collected within,
How I tremble! they say, with a joke,
"This" cruelty "ne'er was a sin."

Will ye feel, O ye Fair, all my grief,
And not in my cause take a part?
Send, O send me some kindly relief,
If humanity dwell in your heart.
See! Hymettus hath rear'd up its head,
And proclaim'd to the nations around,
That the Bees on its sweets that have fed,
No ills like Marpessa's have found.

VERSES

Introductory to the recitation of passages of the Seasons, &c. at the commemoration of Thomson's birth day, held on Sept. 22. by the Knights Companions of the Cape.

Written and spoken by Mr Woods.

LET Autumn's brow by Fancy crown'd,
Again th' appropriate wreath display,
And Music breathe her sweetest sound
To greet a Thomson's natal day.

And ye whose hearts in concord swell
If Nature's praise the song endear,
On his fair themes delighted dwell,
Where peerless shines the perfect year.

Ye circling Seasons, various Powers,
Still as ye change, his praise renew;
As Tweed reflects the pendent flowers,
Your Bard, as faithful, pictures you.

If Spring advance with modest mien,
While infant Zephyrs sport beside;
If summer, languid, press the green,
Or with hot limb embrace the tide;

If Autumn bend her lovely form,
Beneath her ripen'd wealth oppress'd;
If Winter ride the howling storm,
Or on the mountain, frowning, rest:

Our Poet's song, for ever true,
Another Nature there we trace;
While o'er each scene Correctness drew,
Bright Genius shed peculiar grace.

Nor yet restrain'd with partial wing
To mark how roll'd the *rural* year,—
In human life the turns that spring
He ponder'd, with a glance as clear.

Each generous purpose of the soul
His to display with zeal confest;
The Passion, Scipio cou'd controul,
The Love, that warm'd Palæmon's breast.

Skill'd

Skill'd in the Drama's powerful art,
He ſtorm'd the breaſt with grief, deſpair:
When he wou'd paint the *ſocial* part,
He look'd within, and trac'd it there.

While favouring Heav'n this day return,
Shall Nature's votary hold it dear;
Still ſhall th' ingenious boſom burn
To ſpread the fame it muſt revere.

Let rural Youths promote the dance,
The rural Maid well pleas'd attend;
While grateful thoughts her ſmiles advance,
Pure homage to ſoft Beauty's Friend.

So oft, let Taſte and Friendſhip meet,
And yield to decent Joy the ſway;
Muſic, inſpir'd, the ſtrain repeat
That greets a Thomſon's natal day.

FOR THE SCOTS MAGAZINE.

EVENING.

DOWN the ſkies is deſcending the ruler of day,
Behind yon bright hills to retire:
His ſtrong beaming rays on the atmoſphere play;
And the clouds tower in columns of fire.
But, ſee! how theſe ſcenes imperceptibly fade!
And with them the day's heart-enlivening delights:
And mild-featured Evening, in ſable arrayed,
With calm, muſing ſtep, wraps creation in ſhade;
And to ſweet Meditation invites.

All hail, ſober Eve! 'neath thy pale, chilly ray,
From man's noiſy dwellings I fly;
And by Tweed's winding waters, thus, penſively ſtray,
With Wiſdom's contemplative eye.
There, Nature, the miſtreſs of ſcience and ſong,
Bids me pour out my woes in a ſoul-breathing lay;
'Till huſhed are the griefs, and forgotten the wrong,
Which Misfortune inflicted, while travelling along
Youth's pleaſing, but dangerous way.

Now riſes the Moon: Her pale ſilver-light gleams,
Faint-diſcovering the mountain and wood:
Unnumbered the ſtars glow around her; whoſe beams
Play light on the tremulous flood.
How charming to walk—when ſo mild is the ſky—
With the Nymph of my ſoul! Ah! remembrance, no more!
Why cruelly force diſappointment to ſigh?
Why melt, with heart-anguiſh, the tear-guſhing eye?
Theſe hours of enchantment are o'er!

Oft I viſit yon round, ruin'd camp, and ſurvey
It's towers and it's ramparts decayed;
Where the rough, ſhapeleſs pillars, half fallen, and gray,
Mark the tomb where the warrior's laid.
There, ſheltered, the flocks of the hamlet remain;
And the fond, youthful Pair heave the love-raptur'd ſigh;
Where Scotia's bold patriots, independence to gain,
Bathed in blood, rolled the battle's fierce tide o'er the plain;
And knew not from danger to fly.

Now Night ſheds her ſlumbers on every eye!
And ſilence broods over the plains:
The winds are aſleep; and the woods not on high;
And the birds have forgotten their ſtrains.
No! liſten! what harmony burſts from the ſpray!
Some ſpirit is pouring his numbers along!
All is ſilent! Hark again! 'Tis the nightingale's lay,
Who ſings, nature-taught, the lone moments away;
And charms gloomy Night with the ſong.

Thou, Nature! who taught me, in Childhood's gay hour,
My numbers, wild-warbling, to roll;
Still inſpire me, like ſad Philomela; and pour
Bright Fancy's warm glow on my ſoul.
And, now, when Hope's temple in ruins is laid,
And her ſhrine is profaned by the hand of Deſpair;
O! teach me to drain ſorrow's cup undiſmayed;
And to pierce, with ſtrong eye, thro' the dark, midnight ſhade,
Which envelops this valley of Care!

Clouds thicken. No ray night's pale empreſs affords;
And darkneſs breathes horror around!
'Tis welcome! My care-haraſſed ſpirit accords
With ſcenes where no pleaſure is found.
As vaniſh the bright-coloured landſcape of day,
When dark-mantled Night is extending her reign;
So, when death's ſable cloud covers life's twinkling ray,
The charms of wealth, beauty and power paſs away;
But Wiſdom and Virtue remain.

Inverleithen. J. N.

GAZETTE INTELLIGENCE

Downing Street, Oct. 11.

A diſpatch, of which the following is a copy, has been this day received by the Right Hon. Henry Dundas, from Major-General Pigot, commanding his Majeſty's troops in the Iſland of Malta.

SIR, *Malta, Sept.* 6. 1800.

Conceiving that it may be of the utmoſt conſequence that his Majeſty's Miniſters ſhould be acquainted, as ſoon as poſſible, with the ſurrender of the important fortreſs of La Valette, I have deſired Mr Paget to diſpatch a meſſenger to England with a copy of my letter to General Sir Ralph Abercromby on the ſubject, and the articles of capitulation which are herewith ſent you.

We yeſterday took poſſeſſion of ſome of the works, and our ſhips entered the harbour, and I am in hopes the whole will be evacuated by the enemy to-morrow, except the Iſland of Manuel, where, agreeable to the capitulation, ſuch are to remain as cannot be immediately ſent to France for want of ſhips to take them.

I have the honour to be, &c.

H. Pigot, Major General.

To the Right Hon. Henry Dundas, &c.

SIR, *Malta, Sept.* 5. 1800.

I have great ſatisfaction in acquainting you with the ſurrender of the fortreſs of La Valette, with all its dependencies, after ſuſtaining a blockade of two years. The capitulation has been ſigned this day.

I had every reaſon to ſuppoſe that this moſt formidable fortreſs was likely ſoon to fall, from the circumſtances of the two French frigates, La Juſtice and La Diane, going out of the harbour a few nights ago; one of which, La Diane, by the vigilance of the blockading ſquadron, was ſoon captured, and there are ſtill ſome hopes that the other may have ſhared the ſame fate.

Judging of how much conſequence it may be that you ſhould have the earlieſt intimation of this important capture, I have delayed, till another opportunity, ſending returns of the ſtores, &c. found in the place, which could not yet be made up.

During the ſhort time you were here, you muſt have been ſenſible of the great exertions which Brigadier-General Graham muſt have made with that limited force he had, previous to my arrival with a reinforcement; he has ever ſince continued theſe exertions; and I conſider that the ſurrender of the place has been accelerated by the deciſion of his conduct, in preventing any more inhabitants from coming out of the fortreſs a ſhort time after I came here. He was ſent to negociate the terms of capitulation with General Vaubois, and I am much indebted to him for his aſſiſtance in that buſineſs.

I am happy to ſay, that I have experienced every ſupport from Brigadier General Moncrieff, and the officers of the Britiſh and allied troops, whoſe conduct in every reſpect has been moſt exemplary. The ſervice of the Engineer department, under Captain Gordon, has been carried on with great zeal and perſeverance.

I think it right to mention to you, that Lieutenant Vivion of the Royal Artillery, the Aſſiſtant Quarter-Maſter-General, has been of conſiderable ſervice. He was landed here with his party from the Strombolo bomb at the commencement of the blockade; and for a long time did duty with theſe few men without any other Britiſh or regular troops of any deſcription.

I have great pleaſure in acknowledging the conſtant and ready aſſiſtance and co-operation I have received from Captain Ball of his Majeſty's ſhip the Alexander, who has been employed on ſhore during the greater part of the blockade:—His name and ſervices are already well known to his Majeſty's Miniſters; and I am ſure I need not ſay more than thoſe that he has performed here do credit to his former character.

I herewith tranſmit you the terms of the capitulation.

I have derived great aſſiſtance from my Aide-de-Camp Captain Dalrymple, who has for ſome time been doing duty as Aſſiſtant Adjutant General.——I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

H. Pigot, Major-General.

General Sir R. Abercromby, K. B. &c.

[Here follow the articles of capitulation.]

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

RUSSIA.

The conduct of the Emperor Paul continues to be extremely equivocal; for, while he is aſſembling two large armies in Volhynia and Lithuania, amounting together to 130,000 men, apparently to ſupport our Ally the Emperor of Germany, in his renewed oppoſition to the French, he had iſſued from Riga an Edict laying an embargo on all Britiſh property in Ruſſia, on account of the late detention of the Daniſh convoy. The embargo proviſorily laid on Engliſh ſhips in the Ruſſian ports is, however, ſince taken off, in conſequence of information being received, that the differences between Great Britain and Denmark are amicably ſettled for the preſent.

A Ruſſian fleet, of 20 ſail of the line, and a proportionate number of frigates and cutters, is fitting out at Peterſburgh to cruize in the Baltic.

FRANCE.

Preparations are making for opening the negociations at Luneville.

On the 6th of October, the Miniſter for Foreign Affairs delivered to the Firſt Conſul the convention ſigned the firſt of that month between the French and American miniſters, and this event was announced by a diſcharge of cannon. The Firſt Conſul proceeded to Mortfontaine with his family on the 6th of October, where he was joined by the two other Conſuls, all the miniſters, the members of the *corps diplomatique*, the counſellors of ſtate, the preſidents of the ſenate, of the Legiſlative body, and tribunate, and ſeveral perſons formerly in the ſervice of the United States, among whom was General La Fayette. There was a ſumptuous entertainment provided on the occaſion, after which the Firſt Conſul gave the following toaſt, "To the manes of the French and Americans, who died on the field of battle for the independence of the New World."

One of the moſt important articles of intelligence from Paris is, however, the diſcovery of a plot to aſſaſſinate the Chief Conſul. It appears that a man, named Demerville, living at No 24, Rue des Moulins, had diſtributed money, and that ſome perſons of notoriouſly bad character frequented his houſe. It was diſtinctly learned on the 9th of October, that eleven of them were to attack the Firſt Conſul as he came out of rhe Opera. Theſe individuals were known, and the Police had taken ſtrict meaſures of vigilance. On the 10th of October two of theſe ruffians, who are Romans, and are named Seracchi, were arreſted at the Opera. They were armed with cutlaſſes. Demerville and ſome of his accomplices, were arreſted in the night. Demerville and Caracchi have, it is ſaid, confeſſed every thing. Theſe wretches are, for the moſt part, perſons accuſtomed to crimes by the maſſacres of September and thoſe of Verſailles.

GERMANY.

From Vienna the very intereſting intelligence is received, of the reſignation of baron Thugut, who had in fact diſcharged the duties of prime miniſter, even ſince the death of Prince Kaunitz, and has been conſidered as ſtrongly favouring the proſecution of of the war. Count Lehrbach, who ſucceeds him, was always his partiſan; they have conſtantly adopted the ſame ſyſtem. A change of perſons did not, therefore, neceſſarily involve a change of principles; but it is certain, at leaſt, that they propoſe to change their means, if they do not change their object. M. de Thugut did not wiſh, it is ſaid, for peace with the republic upon the baſis propoſed, and he did not wiſh to make it, ſeparate from England. He always refuſed, however, to admit into his calculations, for the continuance of the war, any hopes of new aſſiſtance from Ruſſia. He pronounced decidedly againſt Suwarrow, and did nothing either to calm his reſentment, or to retain his troops in the coalition. If the nomination of Count Lehrbach adds nothing to the hopes of peace in Germany, that of the Count Cobenzel, for the conferences at Luneville, is in general conſidered as a happy omen. They aſſert, on the other hand at Vienna, that Thugut is not diſgraced, but that he gave in his reſignation.

SPAIN.

We are ſorry to learn, by letters from Cadiz of the 5th of September, that the mortality in that city has been much greater than there was reaſon to ſuppoſe. The epidemic diſorder, or as ſome ſuppoſe it, the plague, which pre-

prevails there, carried off no fewer than 3,900 perſons between the 18th of Auguſt and 5th of September, on which day two hundred and ſeven perſons died. The diſorder generally carries off thoſe whom it attacks on the third or fourth day. The firſt ſymptoms are a pain in the limbs and bones, and violent vomitings. About 30,000 inhabitants have fled the city, about 40,000 remain in it. No perſon is now ſuffered, however, to leave Cadiz, and a cordon of troops is drawn along the Peninſula, to prevent all intercourſe with the country.

EGYPT.

Information received from the combined fleets off Alexandria, of date 9th July, ſtates, that Sir Sidney Smith had ſent Lieutenant Wright, of Le Tigre, to Cairo, charged with diſpatches to General Menou, and the Allies waited with ſolicitude the anſwer. The Grand Vizier was encamped with about 30,000 men at Jaffa, and was actively engaged in preparations to advance againſt the enemy, ſhould the miſſion of Mr Wright fail to induce them to evacuate Egypt. The moſt friendly and cordial intercourſe ſubſiſted between the Britiſh and Turkiſh forces, the Captain Pacha, and ſome of the principal officers of his fleet, ſpent the greater part of the 8th of July on board Le Tigre. Sir Sidney Smith had only two Engliſh ſhips, but two others were hourly expected to join him. The Cormorant ſloop of war, charged with diſpatches to Sir Sidney Smith, was loſt off Roſetta early in July laſt. The whole of the crew, and a king's meſſenger, who was on board, reached in ſafety the Egyptian coaſt, where however they are detained as priſoners of war.

The Captain Pacha, who, an leaving Joppa, ſailed to Cyprus, accompanied by Sir Sidney Smith, to obtain a ſupply of proviſions; has reſumed his ſtation before Alexandria, where he is to wait the arrival of the light veſſels which aſſiſt in making diverſions along the coaſt.

The Pacha of Romelia, known in Turkey under the appellation of the "Man of Terror" (according to letters received by the laſt Hamburgh mail) had made ſeveral attempts againſt Paſwan Oglou, all of which proved abortive; in a late engagement with Paſwan Oglou he was defeated, and forced to retreat as far as Sophia with his army, where he is now entrenching himſelf, and waiting for reinforcements. This intelligence cauſed an extraordinary ſitting of the Divan at Conſtantinople, in which it was reſolved to deprive Paſwan Oglou of all his dignities, and declare him one of the moſt dangerous rebels againſt the Porte, which was actually done on the following day, with the uſual Oriental ceremonies. The Grand Signior determined at the ſame time, no longer to oppoſe ſingle corps to that rebel, but a numerous army, headed by an experienced General. In the ſame ſitting of the Divan, the moſt vigorous continuation of the war in Egypt was reſolved upon.

MALTA, &c.

We have the ſatisfaction of announcing at length the fall of Malta to the the Britiſh force (ſee London Gazette, p. 705.) The troops that compoſed the garriſon are priſoners of war, to be ſent to Marſeilles, and not to ſerve againſt his Britannic Majeſty, until exchanged. The ſhips, &c. that were in the port of Malta remain the prize of the captors, though we obſerve, that the French commandant endeavoured to include the latter in the capitulation. It is worthy of notice (as tending to ſhow that the Republicans had, by their conduct, rendered themſelves obnoxious to inſult at leaſt) that the republican general, Vaubois, thought it neceſſary to ſtipulate that none of the Iſland ſhould be ſuffered to enter the town, till the French troops were embarked, and out of ſight of the port.

There appears reaſon to ſuppoſe that the troops under the command of Sir Ralph Abercrombie and Sir James Pulteney have at length received orders for Egypt.

The troops that embarked at Portſmouth on board the Reſource, Modeſte, and Dido, a few days ſince, have ſailed from thence, as it is ſaid, for the Mediterranean. Another embarkation for the ſame quarter is to take place in the courſe of a few days.

Oct. 15. We are concerned to announce the loſs of the hon. Eaſt India company's ſhip the Queen, captain Milliken Craig. Being at anchor at Brazil, where ſhe touched in her outward-bound paſſage for refreſhments

and water, the ſhip took fire, on the 14th of July, and ſhortly after blew up. The Queen was on her fifth voyage, and deſtined to Coaſt and China. She ſailed from Torbay, on the 3d of May laſt, in company with the ſhip Hugh Inglis, captain William Fairfax, and the Kent, captain Robert Rivington, the latter of which was fortunately near her at the time of the accident, and took on board part of the paſſengers and crew. Mr Hardy, the purſer of the Queen, arrived in the Earl Gower from Liſbon, early on Sunday morning laſt, with an account of the dreadful cataſtrophe. Although every aſſiſtance was given to ſave the paſſengers and ſhip's company, yet we are ſorry to ſtate that a number of lives were loſt. It is ſaid that one gentleman, a writer for Madras, five cadets, and about eighty of the crew, periſhed. Capt. Craig, we hear, was left at Liſbon, with moſt of the officers of the Queen.

LONDON.

Oct. 1. The Parliament, by roval proclamation, is to meet for the diſpatch of buſineſs on the 11th of November next.

It is with infinite ſatisfaction we announce the return of tranquillity in the metropolis; and, generally ſpeaking, throughout the kingdom; the happy effect, let us hope, of returning reaſon in the minds of the populace; the conſequence, we are ſure, of vigilance, wiſdom, and moderation in the magiſtrates, and particularly the preſent Lord Mayor of London.

3. This day a common hall was held, to take into conſideration the propriety of petitioning his Majeſty to aſſemble the Parliament, on account of the high price of proviſions.

At one o'clock the Lord Mayor appeared upon the huſtings, and opened the hall, by ſtating the buſineſs for which they were convened. Mr Thorne then came forward, and addreſſed the livery; he ſaid, that they were aſſembled for the purpoſe of taking into their conſideration the propriety of addreſſing his Majeſty to convene Parliament, that they might in their wiſdom apply ſome remedy to the preſent enormous grievance ariſing from the exorbitant price of all the neceſſary articles of life. It was a queſtion which intereſted their feelings as men, and was not connected with any political opinion whatever. That the poor laboured under ſevere calamity was not to be denied or doubted, and although he and thoſe to whom he addreſſed himſelf were enjoying many of the luxuries of life, yet if they were unmindful of the hard ſituation of their ſuffering fellow-creatures, they muſt have eradicated all principles of humanity from their breaſts. He was ſure they had not done ſo; but that they would, every one of them, gladly do all that they could to relieve the diſtreſſes of their fellow-creatures. With reſpect to the cauſe of the preſent high price of the neceſſaries of life, there had been various reaſons aſſigned by different perſons. Some thought it was entirely owing to the war; others ſuppoſed monopoly; others again from over grown farmers; but whatever the real cauſe might be, they were not now called upon to inveſtigate: all that his motion would require was humbly to addreſs his Majeſty to convene the national council whoſe wiſdom could detect the evil, and whoſe virtue could apply the remedy. That the remedy was wanted could not be unknown, and he had himſelf received above an hundred letters from different parts of the country, which contained ſuch melancholy inſtances of deep diſtreſs, that wrung his heart in the peruſal; caſes where the unfortunate ſufferers had been driven to deſperation, to madneſs, and even to ſelf-murder. Mr Thorne then related ſeveral inſtances, and concluded by moving, 'That an humble addreſs and petition be preſented to his Majeſty, praying him to convene Parliament, in order to take into their ſerious conſideration the preſent high price of proviſions, and to conſider ſome means of reducing the ſame.

The queſtion was then put, and carried unanimouſly.

7. This day the election of Lord Mayor fell upon Sir W. Staines, in conſequence of the refuſal of the preſent Lord Mayor.

His Majeſty made the following anſwer to the ſheriffs deputed to wait upon his Majeſty to know when he would receive the city addreſs upon the

the throne. 'You will acquaint the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery of London, that I will receive their petition at the levee, on the 15th inst. at St James's.'

They then requested that the remembrancer might read the resolutions of the common-hall, which he accordingly did; and his Majesty replied, 'I am ever ready to receive the addresses and petitions of my subjects, but I am the best judge where.'

The letter being read a second time,

The Lord Mayor said, the object of this meeting was to receive, from the body of the citizens of London, such further instructions upon this subject as the magnitude of the measure, and the importance of the crisis demanded.

Mr Thorne then came forward, and said he was greatly concerned at being once more called upon to invite the livery to an assertion of their privileges. He expected a more pleasing answer from the King, and was deeply disappointed to find that, at a moment like the present, when every principle of charity, humanity, and benevolence, ought to be exercised, in endeavouring to remedy the distresses and soften the afflictions of the poor, that alone which best could manifest and put into effect such means as must tend to such desirable ends, though not refused altogether, was, by his Majesty's answer, transmitted by the sheriffs, not granted. When he last addressed his fellow-citizens on the sorrows of the manufacturing poor, he stated cases of severe distress; but since that day, there were proofs of afflicting cases put into his hand, that the bare recital of would make our nature shudder and revolt. At this period, therefore, of deep calamity, he lamented that his Majesty refused to listen to their petition on the throne, from whence only redress could be expected, but that he would receive it at a levee---at a Levee, where it might be considered as being presented to a lord in waiting, a thing that rendered it doubtful whether the King ever received it or not. He then complimented the sheriffs on their prompt alacrity, and proceeded to the submitting the first resolution.

A number of resolutions followed, expressive of their rights and privileges.

The petition was as follows:

Most gracious Sovereign,

We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery of the city of London, in common hall assembled, penetrated with compassion for the sufferings of our fellow-creatures, by the present exorbitant price of every article of life, beg most humbly to lay their unhappy situation before your Majesty.

We deeply regret the strong necessity of addressing your Majesty on this occasion, but we feel ourselves impelled by the long and severe sufferings of your Majesty's poorer subjects, who, through extreme want, have been irritated to madness and despair; while the middle classes of society are scarcely able to maintain their families with their wonted comfort and respectability.

The poor, hopeless of relief, and rendered furious by the incessant cries of their half-famished children, join the tumultuous crowd of their suffering brethren, and, in the tone of angry despondence, demand food at a reasonable rate.

Think not, most gracious Sire, that we are disposed to justify acts of tumult, or disorder; but while we lament the excesses by which the public tranquility has been disturbed, and the rights of private property violated, we cannot forbear deploring the sufferings of our fellow-creatures.

Exhausted by solicitude and toil, faint and emaciated through want of food, thousands of unhappy families exist under the torturing expectation of falling victims to merciless famine and extreme distress.

We therefore most humbly implore your Majesty to convene your Parliament, to consider of such measures as they in their wisdom may think most salutary and effectual toward remedying those grievances, which your people suffer, and to remove those causes, which may in future produce the destructive evils, which the poorer classes of your Majesty's subjects cannot sustain. And we will ever pray.

RIX.

14. At a common council held for a similar purpose with the above, it was unanimously agreed to present a dutiful address and petition to his Majesty

jeſty; which was forthwith prepared by a committee appointed for that purpoſe, and ordered to be preſented to the King *upon the throne* by the whole court of common council.

16. The Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, ſix Aldermen, and forty Common Councilmen, went in proceſſion from Guildhall to St James'. At two o'clock the lord in waiting introduced his lordſhip and the corporation into the preſence chamber, where his Majeſty, being ſeated on the throne, ſurrounded by the miniſters and other officers of ſtate, received the petition of the common-council.

His Majeſty, from the throne, made a very ſhort but gracious reply, as follows:

'I am always deſirous of recurring to the advice and aſſiſtance of my Parliament on any public emergency; and, previous to receiving your petition, I had given directions for convening my Parliament for the diſpatch of buſineſs.'

The Lord Mayor and other members of the corporation preſent, had the honour to kiſs his Majeſty's hand.

DREADFUL FIRE AT WAPPING.

Oct. 6. A fire broke out at the houſe of Meſſrs Tydys and St Larbe, Wapping, at ſeven o'clock this morning, in conſequence, it is ſaid, of a kettle of pitch having boiled over, by which the premiſes of Meſſrs Curtis, Wilkinſon, James, and Pickard, Mrs Archibald, Meſſrs Minſhaw, Cocks, Gibbons, Culmer, and Kirkland, together with the Marine Police Office, and fifty private houſes, were deſtroyed, creating a loſs of no leſs than 200,000l.---Two hundred barrels of gunpowder were removed from Meſſrs Tydys; but the conflagration, which deſtroyed every thing from Wapping New Stairs to Execution Dock, reached a few barrels of powder, which exploding, deſtroyed ſeveral perſons, and ſhook almoſt every part of the metropolis. Meſſrs Tydys have been accuſtomed to keep their bank notes and valuable papers in a ſtrong iron cheſt, ſurrounded with bricks, and, ſuppoſing that they would be ſafe there, they refuſed to have them moved; but, on opening the cheſt among the ruins, they found every paper in it deſtroyed. The bricks and iron had been thoroughly heated, and had, of courſe, burnt the papers.

EDINBURGH.

PEACE.

The expectations of peace, expreſſed in our laſt number, ſeem to be almoſt quite vaniſhed. The ſtate of matters appears to be as follows: On the 8th September, when the Emperor of Germany was at Alt Oettingen accompanied with his brother, the Archduke John, it appears that an Auſtrian Officer waited on General Moreau with an intimation that he had reconſidered the propoſitions that were ſigned by the Count St Julien at Paris, and that nearly the whole of them would be accepted; a with was expected at the ſame time the armiſtice might be further prolonged. In the mean time the Emperor has obtained a prolongation of the armiſtice for forty-five days by conſenting to place in the hands of the French (as a pledge of his ſincere intentions) the ſtrong holds of Ulm, Ingolſtadt, and Philipſburg. The neceſſary ſteps have been taken by Buonaparte for opening the negociation at Luneville, General Clarke has been appointed commandant of the town. In conſequence of this explanation, it is ſaid, the Chief Conſul ſignified to the Court of St James's, his readineſs to admit the accredited miniſters of this country to a general congreſs, provided a maritime armiſtice were conſented to by the Britiſh government. The propoſition has, however, been rejected, and the reaſons are to be given ſoon after the meeting of Parliament, when the miniſter is expected to ſubmit to the public the whole correſpondence between Buonaparte and this country. Their late decree, ordering the above fortreſſes to be deſtroyed, is ſuch a glaring breach of faith that little hopes of accommodation can be entertained.

Sept. 29. A duel took place in the neighbourhood of Dundee, between Lieutenant Stewart Watſon of the Marines, Enſign Godfrey Magarey of the 3d N. B. Militia, when the former received a ſhot which proved fatal. Enſign G. Magarey has abſconded, as alſo E. B. O'Keeffe, late Lieutenant in the 71ſt regiment, and Enſign James Bryſon of the 3d N. B. Militia, who appear to have been the ſeconds.

Laſt week two weavers were detected, at Glaſgow, in a ſpecies of theft

theft by which we underſtand, the manufacturers of that place ſuffer very materially. They had each detained a handkerchief off the laſt end of their web, which they ſaved by making all the other handkerchiefs a little ſhorter than they ſhould have been. They both confeſſed the fact.

One ſwarm of bees, belonging to the Rev. Mr Cameron in Moffat, and hived this ſeaſon, produced the aſtoniſhing quantity of 98lbs. of very fine honey.

Many inſtances of remarkable products of a ſimilar kind have occurred this ſeaſon.

Oct. 16. On Tueſday morning early a fire broke out in the out-houſes belonging to the farm houſe of Damhead, near this city, which entirely conſumed the ſtable, byre, &c. Fortunately the flames were prevented from reaching the dwelling-houſe and barn-yard. Eleven cows and ſix horſes were burnt to death.

Yeſterday morning, about four o'clock, an alarming fire broke out in the premiſes of Mr Haldane, wright at the head of Quality-Street, Leith; but timely aſſiſtance being had, the fire, by the aid of the engines, was ſoon got under.

18. On Thurſday the Rev. Dr Thomſon, miniſter of Markinch, Fifeſhire, was admitted miniſter of the New Gray Friars Church in this city, in room of the Rev. Dr Brown, now miniſter of the Old Church.

Thurſday laſt a perſon was fined by the ſitting Magiſtrate in 3l. 6s. 8d. for foreſtalling butter.

The Sheriff has ſentenced two men, colliers, and three women, to ſix months impriſonment in Bridewell. They were convicted of ſtealing potatoes.

On Wedneſday a farm of 160 acres, upon the lands of Reſtalrig, within a mile and a half of Edinburgh, was let by public roup on a leaſe of ten years, for *one thouſand one hundred and ten pounds* per annum!

23. The herring fiſhery commenced on Monday in the Frith of Forth. Each boat had from 3000 to 4000 of very fine herrings, and from the proſpects, it is ſuppoſed there will be a more abundant fiſhing than laſt ſeaſon. The north country fiſhermen ſhould proceed immediately for the fiſhing ſtation at Burtiſland.

At a meeting, held at Elgin on Friday laſt, for the purpoſe of providing corn and meal to the inhabitants for the enſuing year.—The Magiſtrates, Kirk-Seſſion, and Incorporations, have ſubſcribed *Four Thouſand Guineas* for that uſeful purpoſe; which, even during the exiſtence of general ſcarcity, will ſecure a plentiful weekly market, at a reaſonable rate. A public kitchen for the relief of the indigent poor was alſo propoſed, and a very handſome ſum ſubſcribed to carry it into effect.

The Friendly Societies of Dumfries, conſiſting of upwards of 2000 perſons, have reſolved to import grain, for the purpoſe of lowering the preſent exorbitant prices of all the neceſſaries of life. The ſum of 8000l. is already ſet apart for this benevolent deſign.

A letter from Peterhead, dated October 17. 1800, ſays, "The firſt corn market was held here to-day, at which was a very reſpectable aſſemblage of heritors, farmers, and dealers in grain, and a good deal of buſineſs done. We are happy to learn that the landed proprietors and principal farmers in this corner of the country are determined to perſevere in this mode of ſelling the produce of their lands at public markets only, as it will do away the evil ſo juſtly complained of by the town's people, of buying up all kinds of grain in the country, and ſhipping it before they have an opportunity to offer for it, while it inſures the farmers the beſt price.

24. On Monday laſt the Univerſity of Edinburgh conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws on the celebrated Count Rumford.

Lately a great number of deficient weights were ſeized, and the proprietors of them fined according to their guilt, in Dalkeith, Muſſelburgh, Laſſwade, &c. by order of the Sheriff of this county.

Premiums are offered by the Magiſtrates for plans, for laying out in ſtreets and ſquares the beautiful grounds of Bellevue, and the parks on the north of Queen Street.

On Wedneſday, *Jean Paterſon* for ſtealing children, and *Margaret Burt*, for attacking women on the ſtreet and ſtealing their cloaths were ſent to Bridewell by the ſitting Magiſtrate.

30. On Monday night between ſeven and eight o'clock, as Andrew Allan, coachman to the Counteſs of Glencairn,

cairn, was coming to town from the Coats, in the neighbourhood of this city, he was attacked near Kirkbrae-head Toll by three perſons, one of whom ſtruck him ſeveral deſperate blows on the head with a bludgeon, as to occaſion his death next morning. Two of the perſons were apprehended, but the third, who, it is ſaid, ſtruck the fatal blow, has hitherto eluded the officers of juſtice.

Lord Banning, a few days ſince, riding by the Tyne, ſaw a poor woman carried away by the current, when inſtantly plunging into the river, he bore her out alive, and gave her into the care of proper perſons.

The month of October has, upon the whole, been favourable to the purpoſes of huſbandry. The end of laſt month and beginning of this were ſeaſonable for ſeed ſowing, and raiſing the potatoe crop. The crops are now almoſt all in the barn yard. The harveſt upon the whole has been favourable, and very little grain ſpoilt. The corn in general is dry and wholeſome.

In many places the wheat for next year is ſown, the ground for it in excellent condition; the fields have the verdure of ſpring, and the turnips and after graſs are greatly improved by the late rains. Theſe are fortunate circumſtances in the preſent ſcarcity of fodder. Prices of grain, as will be ſeen by the table of that article, ſtill continue uncommonly high. The real cauſe of this is a matter of much difference of opinion, and the ſubject will very ſoon come under parliamentary diſcuſſion. Beef and mutton from 4d. to 6d. per lib. Fiſh are ſcarce and dear, excepting herrings, which, at the end of the month, were ſelling at five a penny. Butter 1s. 6d. per lib. Eggs 1s. per dozen. By the Engliſh papers we learn, that, during the greateſt part of the month, the exportation of proviſions from France and Holland has been entirely prohibited by the reſpective governments of thoſe countries, as they found the large demands for this country began to cauſe a conſiderable riſe in their markets.

The Engliſh report ſtates, that the ſtate of the ſeaſon about the cloſe of the laſt month was very favourable for the commencement of the *wheat ſeeding*, and in ſome of the more ſouthern parts of the kingdom, much of this ſort of grain was then put into the ground; and ſince that period, during the greateſt part of the preſent month, the weather continued favourable, ſo that in almoſt every arable diſtrict, even thoſe of the northern parts of the iſland, the wheat has been put into the earth with much facility, and probably in a ſomewhat larger quantity than uſual, and from the complete and perfect manner in which the lands deſtined for this kind of grain have been prepared, on account of the fineneſs of the ſummer, in that ſort of condition which is the moſt promiſing for a good crop the next ſeaſon. The wheat crop of the laſt harveſt we find turns out well as to quality in moſt of the northern counties of England, but the produce not great, the crops having been generally thin on the ground in thoſe diſtricts. The oat crops in theſe parts have not been found to turn out ſo well as might have been expected, they are ſaid to be both mean in quality, and to yield little meal. Theſe circumſtances have probably tended to the advance. The average price of wheat throughout England and Wales is 108s. 7d.; of rye, 62s. 2d.; of barley, 56s. 9d.; of oats, 34s. 8d.; of beans, 63s. 4d.; and of peaſe, 62s. 6d. The pea crops have ſuffered conſiderably in ſome of theſe diſtricts, from the opening of the pods, and the peas being permitted to fall out upon the ground. Turnips are but an indifferent crop in many parts of the northern counties; we have however obſerved many good patches of this uſeful food, in the midland and more ſouthern parts of England. Hay is ſtill high, and fetches in St James's market from 5l. to 6l. 10s. Straw from 36s. to 45s.

Haddington, Oct. 24.

Beſt Wheat, 57s. Barley, 43s. Oats, 34s. Peaſe, 33s. 6d. Beans, 32.

Edinburgh, Oct. 30. Oat-meal, 2s. 5d. Bear-meal, 1s. 8d. Peaſe-meal, 1s. 8d.

PRICES OF STOCKS.

Oct. 11.	Oct. 24.
Bank Stock 171	166½
3 per cent. red. 65	63
3 per cent. conſ. 64½	63⅜
4 per cent. anns 84½	80⅞
India Stock 206¼	205
Eng. Lot. Tic. ——	——
Iriſh Lot. Tic. ——	——